

REMEMBER MELINDA FLOWERS  
BY VOTING FOR COMMON-SENSE  
GUN MEASURES

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, Melinda Flowers was 4 years old when she and her 8 year old sister found a .38-caliber pistol in their mother's closet. They did not know the gun was loaded, and they played with the gun, pointing it at various items around the room. The gun went off. Melinda was fatally shot in the forehead.

As of today, Melinda Flowers' death will no longer remain anonymous. She and the 13 youngsters who die every single day because of guns are not nameless, faceless statistics; they are real people, real children who are dying from an epidemic.

Over the course of the next 2 days, Members of this body can choose between two options. They can vote for modest, common-sense gun safety provisions already approved by the United States Senate, or they can vote for a watered-down gun bill.

The mothers and fathers of this country are consistent in their plea for modest gun safety measures. Child safety locks are a simple, inexpensive way to prevent accidental deaths and in no way restrict a person's right to own a gun. Closing the loophole at gun shows will allow law-abiding citizens to get firearms freely, but prevent guns from falling into the hands of criminals.

These are common-sense, modest proposals. Let us do the will of the American people. Let us not forget Melinda Flowers.

NO SEPARATE COMMAND AND NO  
SEPARATE GEOGRAPHIC AREA  
FOR MILITARY FORCES IN  
KOSOVO

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, this Member rises to oppose any kind of accommodationist approach regarding Russian military forces in Kosovo. Russia's gambit at the Pristina airport clearly caught NATO and the Clinton administration off guard. It looks too much like the kind of territorial grab the Soviet Army made at the end of World War II. Moscow declared and demanded that its soldiers have a separate sector to patrol outside NATO's command.

□ 1015

Madam Speaker, Americans must not be deceived by the administration to accept euphemistic rhetoric which will mask the placement of Russian forces in a separate geographic area in Kosovo under a separate command.

President Clinton must not budge. No separate sector under Russian control.

The administration and NATO absolutely must not compromise on this issue. Congress and the American people will be watching. The world will be watching. There must be only one answer to the Russians. No, no, no. Nyet, nyet, nyet.

WHAT POLICY WILL MAKE US  
SAFER?

(Mr. WYNN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WYNN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about gun safety and to pose the question, What policy will make us safer? Today in Congress we will debate the issue of gun safety and, most importantly, closing the loophole with respect to gun shows. The issue will be this: Should we be allowed to do a 3-day background check on people who buy guns or should we have a watered-down version that only allows 24 hours?

Law enforcement officials such as the FBI say they need 3 days because sometimes there are thousands of Johnsons and Smiths that they have to run through their computers.

What will make us safer: Taking the 3 days to do a thorough background check so a felon or someone with mental instability does not get a gun, or rushing through for the sake of convenience and letting literally thousands of felons get guns?

These gun shows do not occur at neighborhood arenas or fairgrounds. Oftentimes it is somebody in a pickup truck who shows his guns at a small community. There is nothing wrong with that, but they should have adequate background checks. We have an opportunity to do it today.

Madam Speaker, I urge us to vote for sound, fair, sensible gun control.

LET US FOLLOW NOBLE  
ASPIRATIONS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask this Congress this morning, What do we tell the mothers and fathers of murdered children? What do we tell those who have seen 13 children die every day? This Congress has an opportunity, as was our prayer this morning, to follow noble aspirations and not follow our political aspirations. Four hundred thousand, 400,000 people were prevented from getting guns under the Brady bill. Two-thirds of them were felons.

To the Republicans who voted for the Brady bill, it is time now to follow noble aspirations and not political aspirations. It is time to join common-sense children's safety and protect them against guns.

Today I will go and talk to constituents who have called me, one who said

they will use every penny to defeat me if I vote for gun safety. I ask my colleagues to stand against intimidation, stand for the saving of the lives of those who will go on after us. Tell the mothers and fathers of murdered children that we have the courage to follow our noble aspirations and stand up against the death of children in America.

Vote for gun safety today. Vote for gun safety.

GOP: GUNS OVER PEOPLE

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, a few weeks ago House Republicans said they believed that the United States should not take a leadership role in the world; a war in Europe was someone else's problem, they said. But this week, the GOP says the United States should be the leader of the world. The United States, according to House Republicans, must retain its title as world leader: in murders, assaults and other incidents of gun violence.

I used to think that the Republicans' isolationism simply meant that they closed their eyes to the rest of the world's problems. Now I see that they have closed their eyes to the rest of the world's solutions. The solution to gun violence and crime in every other industrialized nation has been fewer guns; more gun safety laws. It has proven it works.

Sometimes it is hard to figure out what the Members of the GOP stand for. They want us to stand alone in the world, too proud to take a lesson from other countries. They do not want us to stand up for freedom or stand up to an evil aggressor, but at least it is clear what the letters GOP stand for: Guns over people.

AMERICAN TAXPAYERS HAVE A  
RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING  
ON OVERSEAS, WHO IS PAYING  
FOR IT, AND HOW FAR THE MILITARY  
HAS BEEN DILUTED

(Mr. MCINNIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCINNIS. Madam Speaker, I was not going to address the House until I heard the previous speaker. I would say to the previous speaker that I would like to show him a poster which I am going to show a little later on, a very violent poster. And, of course, this company contributes maximum contributions to the Democratic National Committee.

Second of all, as the previous speaker brought up, that the Republicans are questioning what kind of action went on in Kosovo. Doggone right we are questioning about that. Who is paying their fair share over there? Are the Europeans doing their fair share of burden

sharing? Or once again, is it the taxpayers of the United States of America that are going to pay for all of the action in Kosovo, or the great majority of it?

Let us not kid anybody around here. The American taxpayer and the American citizens want to know what business we have overseas, how we are paying for it, how many of our troops are in danger, how much we have diluted the United States military.

Now, the previous speaker, apparently speaking for the Democratic Party, does not think that is any of our business. Well, I do. I think it is our business. We have the obligation to, number one, see what the mission is and how we complete it.

#### VOTING TO SUPPORT JUVENILE JUSTICE BILLS

(Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Madam Speaker, later today we will have the opportunity to vote on a bipartisan piece of legislation that stresses both accountability and prevention for juveniles. In my mind, a good juvenile justice bill must have provisions that hold juveniles immediately accountable for their actions.

H.R. 1501 requires States to implement graduated sanctions, ensuring that there is a consequence to each crime committed and that penalties increase with each additional offense.

By making activities such as restorative justice programs and drug courts eligible for funding, H.R. 1501 allows communities to be innovative in how they hold youngsters accountable. These provisions are in line with legislation that I have drafted that would fund activities allowing localities to provide individual attention to non-violent juvenile offenders, while holding them accountable for their actions.

This legislation is based on successful efforts of the juvenile justice system in one of my counties, Clackamas County. When a juvenile offender is arrested, that juvenile is assessed, evaluated. They work with parents. They work with local police and school officials to come up with proper sanctions.

I look forward to supporting both of these bills.

#### AMENDMENT TO PROVIDE PROGRAM FOR EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVENTION WITH MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO EXHIBIT VIOLENT TENDENCIES

(Mr. OBEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, the bill we are now debating will try young people as adults at age 13. It will provide magic solutions on guns, but it

will not allow a debate on my amendment to provide a greatly expanded program for early identification and intervention with mental health services to young people at an early age if they exhibit tendencies that might lead to violence.

At the proper time today, I will ask unanimous consent to allow my amendment to be added to those other amendments that will be debated so that we can at least try to approach this problem in a comprehensive multifaceted way, so that we can deal with the problem of juvenile violence in the most comprehensive and rational fashion.

#### LET US PASS LEGISLATION TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN

(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, when I visit schools and community centers and meet with parents at Little League games and picnics throughout my Congressional District, I constantly hear that we must do something as a Congress and as a nation about the violence that plagues our schools and streets.

The crime rate in my district and in New York City has declined. Neighborhoods are safer. Kids do not fear gang warfare and schools throughout New York are safe havens for students. Kids may be safe but parents are concerned. They are concerned about the proliferation of guns, of kids getting access to guns without trigger locks, of guns being bought at gun shows without adequate background checks, and of the ability to buy guns over the Internet.

These are the issues that the Democrats want to address, not a bill written in secret by the NRA and brought straight to the floor without an adequate committee hearing.

Why is the bill the House is addressing weaker than its Senate bill? Let us pass legislation to protect our children, make our neighborhoods safer and make it harder for guns to get into the hands of children and criminals.

#### REQUEST TO MAKE IN ORDER OBEY AMENDMENT TO H.R. 1501, CONSEQUENCES FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS ACT OF 1999

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that during consideration of the bill (H.R. 1501) to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders, pursuant to House Resolution 209, the amendment that I have posted at the desk may be considered as though it were the last amendment printed in part A of the Committee on Rules report 106-186.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. WILSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Wisconsin?

Mr. MCINNIS. Madam Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Objection is heard.

#### A REAL NIGHTMARE: DEMOCRAT TAX INCREASE

(Mr. COOKSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COOKSEY. Madam Speaker, last night I did not sleep well. I did not sleep well because I had a nightmare. I dreamed that the Democrats had control of both Houses of Congress, and the worst part of it was even more disturbing than that. In this Democrat majority Congress, the Democrat leadership decided to actually pass into law what they said they would do; in other words, raise taxes.

Millions of Democrats across the country are not liberals. In fact, many of them are quite conservative indeed; especially on fiscal issues. But the Democrat party in Washington, as most people know, is quite liberal, especially the Democrat leadership in Congress.

The House minority leader, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), wants to expand the Federal education bureaucracy in Washington by cutting defense and raising taxes, and the minority leader in the other body, Mr. DASCHLE of South Dakota, stated just this past weekend on CNN's Evans and Novak that tax increases are on the table.

That is why I did not sleep well last night.

#### CONSEQUENCES FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 209 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1501.

□ 1027

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1501) to provide grants to ensure increased accountability for juvenile offenders, with Mr. THORNBERRY in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. When the Committee of the Whole rose on the legislative day of Wednesday, June 16, 1999, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 30 printed in part A of House Report 106-186 by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) had been postponed.

It is now in order to consider amendment No. 32 printed in part A of House Report 106-186.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MRS. EMERSON

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.