

THE ROLE OF CONGRESS IN
ESTABLISHING WARTIME POLICY

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to join with my colleague in echoing what several have said, and that is that we must respect all Americans of all ethnicities and all religions. No religion preaches mass murder, and those of the Islamic faith are as loyal as any other group of Americans and as determined that we make ourselves safe from this kind of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to be dealing with a resolution which, in some ways, still seems a bit broad, especially when one reads the Supreme Court opinions that indicate that it is Congress, rather than the President, that was really given the obligation to form American foreign policy under the Constitution. Obviously, since World War II, that is not as it has been. But we in Congress need to do more than just provide \$40 billion and a blank check and leave town. I know that when we come back, we will want to do an awful lot more, perhaps providing some direction to how the President uses the powers that we will confer upon him today or tomorrow.

One thing, though, is that the resolution in one respect is not broad enough, because it gives the President the power to deal with the terrorist acts of September 11. I think the President should have equal power to deal with the horrendous bombings of our embassies in Daressalam and Nairobi and to deal with the murderous attack on our sailors on the USS *Cole*. One advantage of giving the President the power to deal with those incidents is we already know who is responsible: Osama bin Laden; whereas it may take weeks or months to establish who is culpable for this week's terrible crimes.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not a senior member of this House; I am a man of limited responsibility and far more limited wisdom. But I do have a few ideas as to how we should respond to what has happened to us.

I sit on the Committee on Financial Services, and I know it has been suggested by the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means that we somehow help our stock market by providing a lower capital gains tax. That would be the panic-selling facilitation act. It would mean that those who want to sell in panic, get out of the stock market and weaken America, in doing so would pay less tax. Instead, what we need, Mr. Speaker, is to encourage Americans to bet on America. We will prevail, we will be strong, and those who bet on America on Monday will be rewarded.

If it should be necessary to change our policy, and I do not think it is, in order to help the stock market, then we should allow more money to be invested in IRAs and 401(k)s on the as-

sumption, or on the requirement that the additional funds be invested in the stock market. I do not think that will be necessary. The international stock markets have responded relatively well, and the smart money will be bet on America.

Mr. Speaker, also on the Committee on Financial Services, I am concerned that the bank secrecy laws of our allies may interfere with our investigation of Osama bin Laden and other groups. Bin Laden has at least \$100 million, maybe \$200 million in assets, and these are not held in gold bars in Qandahar, Afghanistan. Financial institutions do business with Osama bin Laden and we need to hear right now from the Ambassador from Switzerland and the Ambassador of every country that has bank secrecy laws, that those laws will be waived to assist America in its hour of need. No country dare withhold information that we need and claim to be America's friend. We cannot do business as usual with those who do business with terrorists and then will not share the financial records with us.

Mr. Speaker, we should also look at the Attorney General guidelines for investigating domestic organizations. I am told that the FBI, before they investigate an organization, must have evidence that that organization is actually plotting crimes. We should also, and this is a tough one, but we should at least consider a congressional mandate that the FBI also investigate those organizations that strongly advocate killing as many Americans as possible while disclaiming that they are actually involved in carrying out plots to do so; because if an organization is able to advocate killing as many Americans as possible and do so on American soil, they will be able to recruit individuals who will be able to plot to actually carry out those beliefs.

Mr. Speaker, we should look at the proposals that have been made to have a locked cabin, in which the pilot sits, with bulletproofing. I know that there are some details to be worked out in that, particularly as to pilot safety, but a law that does not allow hijackers into the pilot cabin.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today we approved an emergency appropriations and will soon consider a bill regarding the use of force to respond to the deplorable terrorist acts committed against the people of our Nation, and against the principles that our country represents: freedom, liberty, democracy and respect for the law.

As our government works to develop a comprehensive and decisive response to this challenge, I am reminded of the Reagan doctrine of peace through strength and the principles of deter-

rence. It took one kind of military force to deter an attack when the United States possessed overwhelmingly and unparalleled military power. However, it takes another kind, now that our enemy is cowardly and elusive, refusing to show its face, hiding in the shadows of the misery and terror it has created.

This is a different world. Our defenses must be based on recognition and awareness of the methods, weapons, tactics and behavior of this new enemy. Our security depends on being prepared to meet these new threats head-on, threats that have turned the Continental United States into a new theater of conflict.

As former President Ronald Reagan once said, "We have a rendezvous with destiny. We will preserve for our children this, the last best hope of man on Earth. If we fail, at least let our children and our children's children say of us, we justified our brief moment here. We did all that could be done."

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

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to swap my place with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) at this time.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATION TO UPDATE THE
STATE DEPARTMENT REWARDS
PROGRAM

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

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, a few hours ago I received a phone call from Captain Clay Fearnow, my former commanding officer in the Navy during the Kosovo conflict. Clay told me of a terrible loss we had suffered in the Navy family as part of the Pentagon disaster. Most of the Navy Command Center was hit, including the Chief of Naval Operations Intelligence plot offices. It is a point of intense personal loss for me and my family because of that information. My wife and I worked in that office. We know many people there. We want to offer our sympathy and support to the families of the victims in the Naval Intelligence Community that suffered this loss on Tuesday.

Mr. Speaker, we can do something about this, and I want to offer one suggestion in the form of legislation that we will be offering later on today.