

Of course that criticism should not give any information to the enemy. But too many people desire to suppress criticism simply because they think that it will give some comfort to the enemy to know that there is such criticism. If that comfort makes the enemy feel better for a few moments, they are welcome to it as far as I'm concerned, because the maintenance of the right of criticism in the long run will do the country maintaining it a great deal more good than it will do the enemy, and will prevent mistakes which might otherwise occur.

I fervently hope for a short military engagement, minimal civilian casualties, and the safe return of American men and women in uniform. Over the past several months, I have heard from thousands of people from throughout my district concerning the situation in Iraq. Nearly everyone expressed their concerns about the uncertainties of a pre-emptive war with Iraq. It is my belief that, before young American men and women are sent to fight in any war, we should work with the international community to exhaust every alternative short of war. Now that war has begun, all Americans—those who favored military action and those who favored alternative approaches—think of our troops and wish for their quick victory and safe return.

Our work as citizens and policy makers does not stop with this expression of our support for the troops. The start of war does not end the debate and it does not end the dissent. It is imperative that the President and our nation not only honor our commitment to rebuild Iraq following the war, but also rebuild our relations with the nations of this world so that we might once again work closely together to avoid war and maintain peace in solving global challenges.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 182nd anniversary of Greek independence. Greece is a nation with a great democratic tradition. Athens and the United States share the same values of freedom and democracy. We are both part of what the distinguished scholar Karl Deutsch aptly labeled a "pluralistic security community," a community based on shared values and common interests. Indeed, despite all the current differences, the Euro-Atlantic Alliance, in which our nations are firmly embedded, remains the cornerstone of the zone of the democratic peace.

Maintaining and extending the zone of peace is the most important task for democracies. Greece and the United States have been united in this endeavor for decades. We were allies in the fight against Naziism during World War II, we were allies in the victorious fight against Soviet Communism. After the end of the Cold War, we have also been allies in confronting new threats to world peace. When the powder keg on the Balkans exploded, for example, the Greek and the U.S. governments worked together by promoting peace and supporting humanitarian aid. Particularly with respect to Kosovo, the Greek government's help was essential.

We are also allies in the war against terror, the greatest threat to global peace. Following the September 11 attacks, Greece immediately assured us of its support, and Greek aircrews secured our skies with NATO AWACS. Greece also joined the International Assistance Force in Afghanistan by dispatching a frigate with a crew of over 200. Athens further successfully fought terrorism on its own soil by arresting members of the November 17 group. The arrest and trial of these terrorists has created a sense of security not only among Greek society but—when we look to the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004—among the wider international community that threats of this kind can be mastered.

We are also allies in the goal of helping achieve a just a permanent solution to the Cypriot conflict. I applaud the work of the Greek government in working with their colleagues in the Republic of Cyprus along with the leaders of Turkey to promote a peaceful settlement of the situation in Cyprus and reunification of the island. I regret that the negotiations failed but I hope that a solution can be achieved in the near future.

Finally, let me conclude by stressing that good U.S.-Greek relations are not merely achieved at governmental and official levels. Instead, the Greek Americans in our country enrich our lives and provide for a better cultural understanding. The area of Queens in New York City, parts of which I represent, is home to the largest Greek population outside of Greece. These people are well integrated in our society. As their interactions form the basis for a healthy relationship at all levels, I am optimistic that the U.S.-Greek relationship will remain marked by friendship and trust.

IN MEMORY OF MAJOR GREGORY STONE

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express the deep sorrow I share with every Idahoan at the loss of Maj. Gregory Stone. Maj. Stone died early Tuesday at an Army field hospital in Kuwait, the second man to die from wounds suffered in a grenade attack last Saturday on soldiers at Camp Pennsylvania. Maj. Stone was the Air Liaison Officer there with the Army's 101st Airborne Division.

He was a highly trained military officer with 20 years of distinguished Air Force and Idaho Air National Guard service. Maj. Stone died in a theater of war on the other side of the world, fighting to free a foreign people from tyranny and his own countrymen from fear. In that, he was true to America's most cherished values and traditions. The example of his citizenship and dedication to duty, and how we all seek to emulate it, will be his enduring legacy.

Yet it was as a son and father of two young boys living in Boise that Gregory Stone will be best and most dearly remembered. The sadness felt by the people of a proud and grateful state pales by comparison with his family's grief at his passing. I can only offer them my humble condolences, and the hope that a sure knowledge of Gregory's self-sacrifice and heroism will provide some succor in the difficult days to come.

Maj. Stone embodied the best of America. I am proud to represent the family of such a man. They have my personal thanks, and a promise to preserve those virtues for which their loved one gave the last full measure of devotion.

SHOCK AND AWE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in "shock and awe." I am in shock and awe of the courage and bravery that our military women and men have shown overseas in the fight to liberate Iraq. They fight our fight, and they do it without question because their Commander-in-Chief asked them to.

I rise today also in "shock and awe" of the actions this past Thursday on the House floor. Late in the night, the budget resolution passed by the skin of its teeth, but those teeth still cut deep. They cut deep to the tune of \$14.6 billion in unspecified cuts to mandatory veterans' benefits programs with \$463 million of that coming in the next year. Ninety percent of those cuts come from cash payments to service-disabled veterans, low income wartime veterans and their survivors. Montgomery G.I. Bill education benefits, vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs for service-disabled veterans, and subsidies for VA home loans also face cuts at the very time when troops fight through sandstorms and fierce enemy resistance. While at war, their benefits are stripped down to avoid "waste, fraud and abuse." Do government programs helping low-income veterans or service-disabled veterans fall under "waste, fraud and abuse?" According to the Republican Leadership in the House, they do.

Along with mandatory spending, VA discretionary spending takes a tremendous cut as well: \$14.2 billion over the next ten years, and 96 percent of discretionary spending is veterans' health care. Priority 8 veterans have already been declared ineligible, and co-payments will increase for pharmaceutical drugs and primary care. In reducing discretionary spending, the Republican budget prevents more veterans from receiving health care and makes room for its tax cuts benefiting the wealthiest Americans, Americans who probably don't have children in fatigues. During wartime, this is shameful and disrespectful to the military women and men who make secure the very freedom that we enjoy.

The "shock and awe" campaign apparently is not limited to military conflict in Iraq. It has engaged the budgetary process and threatens the ability of the U.S. government to care for its own. If we all support our troops and wish the swift return home of American daughters and sons, how can we find it in ourselves to cut funding to programs that extend a hand to the soldiers that said, "No, you stay here. I'll go?" There is no justice in it, and no pair of night-vision goggles will see justice in the budget passed last Thursday night.

TRIBUTE TO RITA BOWLING

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an invaluable public servant, Mrs. Rita Bowling. Mrs. Bowling recently retired from her post as a member of the Board of Supervisors for San Benito County, which is located in my Central California District. Mrs. Bowling has been a beacon of public service who sought to make San Benito County a better place by tirelessly advocating for the principles of the county residents whom she served.

Mrs. Bowling was born in Rouyn, Quebec, Canada. She moved to Hollister, California, with her family in 1946. She has lived in San Benito County continuously since then and attended local schools. In 1964, she married Mr. Linden Bowling.

For 30 years, Mrs. Bowling began working in the insurance business, and eventually owned her own agency, reminding this community that the American dream is possible through hard work and integrity.

Mrs. Bowling not only set an example for the residents of this county, but opened doors for future generations of women when she was the first woman to serve as the Foreperson of the San Benito County Grand Jury. She sprung those doors open again when she became the first woman elected to the San Benito County Board of Supervisors in 1987. Mrs. Bowling represented San Benito County's 3rd District on the Board from 1987 to January 2003, a 16-year record of public service. Mrs. Bowling served as Chairperson to the Board of Supervisors in 1991, 1995, 1998, and again in 2002. She presided over that body with great skill and with an immense sense of responsibility to the people of San Benito County. Her decision not to seek election to a 5th term means a gain for her family, but a loss to the community. She leaves a legacy of achievement that we all can admire.

In addition to her service on the board, Mrs. Bowling participated with the San Benito County of Governments (COG) where she diligently worked to improve San Benito County's transportation infrastructure. Mrs. Bowling also served on the Veterans Memorial park Commission for nearly 14 years during which time she was instrumental in obtaining funding and community support for improvements to the park, including, ball fields and restrooms benefiting the community.

Widely respected for her uncommon common sense, for speaking with candor and clarity and for her principled stands on the issues, Mrs. Bowling never withdrew from an opportunity to speak directly to the issues at hand. San Benito County will miss her "Ritaisms". All those who worked with Mrs. Bowling, share my admiration for the unmatched dignity and professionalism that she brought to her four terms on the board.

Through her enormous sense of decency, fairness, generosity, and commitment to the residents of San Benito County, Mrs. Rita Bowling has made it a better place for all residents. Mr. Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Rita Bowling.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR EDWARD ZIGLER ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to join in paying tribute to one of New Haven's most respected and treasured citizens and my dear friend, Dr. Edward Zigler, as he celebrates his retirement from a most distinguished and impressive career. For over 4 decades, Ed, a professor of psychology at Yale University, has devoted his talent and energies to the smallest of our Nation's citizens—our children. Nationally recognized for his contributions, Ed's vision and tenacity has made the safety and security of our children and families a national priority.

As policy makers, we often look to those with field expertise for advise and counsel. There are few that have served in these halls in the last thirty years who will not recognize the name Dr. Edward Zigler. A member of the National Planning and Steering Committee for Project Head Start, Ed was instrumental in the development and implementation of this tremendous program and has been asked to serve as an advisor to each succeeding Administration since President Johnson. His efforts on a national committee of professionals charged with examining the possibility of making infant care leaves a reality in America directly inspired the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993. Founder of the School of the 21st Century, which has been adopted by over thirteen hundred schools nationwide, Ed saw his vision of adding child care to the mission of public schools become a national model. It is not often that you find an individual whose efforts have so effectively changed public policy.

Through each of his accomplishments, Ed's work has dramatically changed the face of public policy concerning our children. He has made a real difference in how we, not only as legislators but as a society, view the importance of early childhood education programs, child care standards, addressing the needs of abused children and those exposed to traumatic violence, as well as the critical need for effective family support programs. A pioneer in his field, Ed has touched the lives of millions of children across the country—giving them a strong voice and ensuring that their interests are heard at every level of government.

As a professor, Ed has taught many who have gone on to hold significant positions as policy makers and teachers themselves. Those he has trained will go on to teach others, for his is a legacy not just of books and articles but of ideas and inspiration. Through his position with the Yale Child Study Center and as Director of the Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy, these institutions have become recognized leaders in addressing the most significant issues facing today's children and families. This weekend, leading researchers and policy-makers in the fields of child development and social policy will gather for a Festschrift entitled Child Development and Social Policy: Knowledge for Action in celebration of Ed's lifetime of work—a reflection of the impact his career has made. Ed has left an indelible mark on our community and our nation and we have certainly

been fortunate to have him call New Haven home.

It is my great privilege to join all of those gathered in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dr. Edward Zigler for his invaluable contributions. I have been honored to have the opportunity to work closely with Ed on issues both here in Washington as well as in Connecticut. He has been an invaluable resource and I look forward to continuing to look to him as we continue to work to improve the quality of life for all of America's children.

SYMPATHY EXPRESSED FOR TEAL FAMILY IN DALLAS, TEXAS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just 7 days ago, many Members in this House, including myself, supported the continuation of diplomacy in the Iraqi crisis as an alternative to immediate war. This House and the Senate, however, voted to authorize the use of force last October, and we have now used that force.

We will never know what result might have come from having stayed the diplomatic course. We do know now, however, that our Nation is at war. We do know that the sons and daughters of all our many communities are engaged in the dangerous and unpredictable duties that are carried by the Armed Forces in a time of war.

Our purpose here today is not to revisit the debate over the policies that lead us to war. My position on a peaceful solution to the Iraqi crises has not diminished. My conviction that untold and unwanted consequences await us in the future has not receded. My heartache over the potential loss of innocent lives, on all sides of this conflict, has not lessened.

But, our purpose now is to unite solidly behind our troops and all those who are commanding our Armed Forces.

Let no one, least of all Saddam Hussein, doubt that whatever the nature of our democratic debate may have looked like last October, today, or even next week, we are all united in prayer for a swift conclusion to hostilities. We are also united in our support for our soldiers and their families. Congress will not deny our men and women in the field whatever they need to accomplish their mission, including moral support from Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot let this moment pass without honoring one of our constituents from Dallas Metroplex. On Monday, I was informed that our community has suffered a great and tragic loss in the person of John Teal of Dallas, Texas. Staff Sergeant Teal was one of the 6 U.S. Air Force Members whose lives were lost on Sunday evening in the Ghazni area of Afghanistan.

The HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter, from the 41st Rescue Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, crashed Sunday in the Afghan. The two medics and four-person crew were on their way to rescue two Afghan children with serious head injuries. Though this is not the war that is so heavily covered in the media right now, Staff Sergeant Teal and the rest of that helicopter crew were at war protecting innocence and our well-being right here at home.