

Every death of an American who wears our nations uniform is one death too many. Families who lose a loved one will never be able to fill the void. But I also know this. As in other difficult wars our nation has fought, we send our forces abroad to meet the enemy in order to prevent the war from coming to our shores and to our homes. The front lines of the war on terrorism will either be in Kabul and Baghdad or they will be in New York, Washington or New London, Connecticut. We are doing the right thing for America and for the free people of the world. But doing the right thing is no guarantee against misfortune. The war will be long and difficult. So was the Cold War; so was World War II.

War is a terrible thing, but it is not the most terrible. Far worse are the evils that war can prevent and end—evils like the attacks of September 11th that took the lives of innocent people on their way to work, in their offices and flying on jet airliners. War is a moral undertaking when arms are taken against brutal despots and those who would destroy our people, our values and our nation. September 11th showed us with graphic clarity that there is great good and great evil in the world. As a free and resourceful nation, America must accept its obligations to lead in the world, and we must do so fully and without apology. As we debate how much the war on terrorism will cost; as we question how long the war will last; as we seek answers to how long it will take to bring stability to Iraq, let us realize that none of those important questions negates the righteousness of our cause and the necessity of our actions.

The enemies of freedom know what is at stake in Iraq and Afghanistan. If those nations fall back into the dark days of oppression and terror, those who seek the destruction of the United States will have achieved a significant victory—preserving abroad a climate of tyranny and breeding ground for terrorism. They are fighting to defeat our allies and us. The danger facing us is not that we will be drawn further into a difficult situation but that we will lose our will and quit before the work is done. In the past the terrorists have taken undue comfort from our lack of resolve. They believe that if they create enough chaos and generate enough American casualties, we will give up. They are wrong. We will not give up because we cannot afford to have the front lines of the war drawn in the United States. We will not give up because we will never forget those who died in the Twin Towers, and at the Pentagon and in a lonely field in Pennsylvania. We will not give up because in the words of President John F. Kennedy, "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

Our enemies have declared war on us and they intend to win. We can fight the war on our terms or on theirs, but we cannot opt out. We cannot let the calls for an "exit strategy" become calls to retreat. May we have the wisdom to understand that this war is not about politics or elections, it is about survival. May we have the patience to know our mission is worthwhile. It is about ensuring that our children and grandchildren will inherit a nation that is free and just and whole. Our oath of office demands we meet these responsibilities to provide for the common defense.

Mr. Speaker, two years ago a cartoon published in the national news media pictured a young girl seated on her father's lap responding to a news article of the September 11 attacks on America. She asked him, "Will we hate back?" Two years later the answer is clear. Children of the victims of the World Trade Center attacks are reading the names of their loved ones into the record at Ground Zero in New York City. They are not doing it with hatred and vengeance but with remembrance and love. This is America's answer to those who would destroy us, and it is answer for future generations and the world.

THE DEATH OF EDWARD TELLER

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, with the passing of Edward Teller on Tuesday, the United States has lost one of our foremost physicists and a lifelong advocate for education. Through his leadership and vision, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in my district designed the nuclear weapons that have deterred world wars and the infrastructure that ensures the continuing safety, security, and reliability of our Nation's nuclear weapons stockpile without live testing.

His efforts were instrumental in creating the Livermore site at what was then the University of California Radiation Laboratory in 1952.

Teller served as the Laboratory's second director from 1958 to 1960, a time when it was well along in development of the U.S. Navy's Polaris missile warhead. Teller advanced Polaris, the Laboratory's first military design project. Polaris was validated in a test in 1958, a few months before nuclear testing was halted for a time by a voluntary moratorium.

The moratorium was one of Teller's greatest challenges. Faced with keeping the Laboratory viable without testing, plans were laid for a program exploring the peaceful uses of nuclear explosives called Project Plowshare.

In addition to his contributions to physics, Teller was a passionate educator and strongly believed that America needed more intensive scientific education to develop future generations of scientists and engineers.

Less than two months ago, Edward Teller was recognized for his contributions to science with the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest honor.

As I work with the national laboratories on the cutting edge programs they have developed in multiple areas, I am constantly reminded of Edward Teller's legacy. I am saddened by this loss but know that he has made lasting and important contributions to the security of the United States. For that, we are all grateful.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, on this second September since the terrorist attacks of

2001, I think it is important to focus on what has kept our Nation strong.

In the darkest hours of September 11, many of us reached out to our loved ones. We did not understand why we were being attacked but we did know to reach for those people important to us. Let this be the reason why we gather today and remember September 11, 2001.

Those that harmed us on that day were attempting to steal from us our freedom. They did not succeed. They will not succeed. They will never take our spirit.

That day 2 years ago, marks many things for many people. It is images of horror. It is feelings of sadness. It brings striking appreciation for the precious fragility that is life.

For many of us, time will not wash away the hurt of that horrific moment. Though these things happened in New York, Washington, DC, and Pennsylvania, it was an attack on America. Through prayer and the support of our spouses and children, we survive. We move on. We persevere.

Today let our prayers remain with the victims, their souls, and their families during this time of immeasurable sadness. Our Nation grieves with you.

There are truly few moments in history when a Nation can agree the events of a day changed the world. September 11 is one of those days. Let us honor the people who gave their lives on September 11 and those both here and abroad who continue to work diligently to watch over us as we continue to go about our normal business. God bless America.

TRIBUTE TO MAI HONG ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF "A TOUCH OF ELEGANCE"

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Californian, Mai Hong, as she celebrates the fourth anniversary of the opening of "A Touch of Elegance", her thriving Menlo Park salon, founded October 4, 1999.

Mai Hong has built a remarkable business with loyal customers from throughout the community together with her able team of Cindy, Amy, Julie, Danny, Kim and Brittany.

From the time Mai arrived in the United States from Viet Nam in 1984, she has built a better life for her two children, her mother, herself and so many others. Mai celebrates daily the privileges and responsibilities of her American citizenship.

How proud I am to honor her work, her values, and her deep love for her adopted country. She is a model for others to emulate and she is a woman I'm proud to call my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mai Hong and the entire "Touch of Elegance" team as they celebrate their fourth anniversary, a model business in California's 14th Congressional District.