

however, have been actually murdered and as there is no doubt that this was done by order of the Government, there can be no pretense that the measure is anything else but a general massacre."

Now more than ever as the world is gripped by unrest and terrorism, the memory of the Genocide underscores our responsibility to help convey our cherished tradition of respect for fundamental human rights and opposition to mass slaughter. We owe it to the victims of the Genocide to acknowledge what happened and to teach our students and children about their suffering, so that we can fulfill our obligation to ensure that genocide will never happen again. Our future generation should be able to say, "I learned, I acknowledge, and I will work to prevent it from happening again."

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

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

#### EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS).

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

There was no objection.

#### HONORING RON RIOUX

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

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Ron Rioux for his outstanding work in helping low income New Hampshire residents achieve the goal of home ownership. Ron is the President and CEO of St. Mary's Bank, a not-for-profit, member-owned association and home of the Nation's first credit union. St. Mary's Bank, under Ron's careful guidance, is a company that faithfully upholds the ideals of corporate responsibility, good citizenship and core values. The bank's commitment to giving back to the greater community is evident in its many partnerships with local nonprofit organizations and its sponsorship of a scholarship program for local high school seniors.

Ron's leadership has extended to other organizations as well, including the New Hampshire Credit Union League, which is comprised of 31 consumer-owned credit unions across the State. The Credit Union League has undertaken a new venture providing financial and loan assistance to deserving families.

In 2003, the New Hampshire Credit Union League announced a 5-year, \$35 million commitment to reach out to financially disadvantaged New Hampshire residents. Credit unions across

the State recognized the need to improve the availability of affordable housing in New Hampshire and established a community loan program, in conjunction with Neighborhood Housing Services of Manchester, in order to provide affordable housing, financial counseling and loan programs to this underserved population. Ron serves as chairman of the committee that secured the participation of New Hampshire credit unions in this program and was the driving force for creating the financial assistance fund in the first place. This new program is an excellent example of the working partnerships that help make the dream of home ownership a reality for many financially disadvantaged families.

Ron Rioux believes strongly in the adage that each credit union is an integral part of the community it serves. The formation of this new community loan program exemplifies just that. The program will not only allow many first-time home buyers the ability to lay a foundation to build wealth that they can pass on to future generations, it will rebuild the community and grow livable and safe neighborhoods.

Ron and the New Hampshire Credit Union League saw an imperative need to make home ownership an affordable reality for many New Hampshire families and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to put this plan into action. Always humble, Ron refuses to take credit for the formation of this community loan program, instead pointing the spotlight on the efforts of the entire league and its members. His tireless commitment to assisting first-time home buyers is a wonderful example of his perseverance and his dedication to improving the community and State in which he lives. Ron's hard work, determination and ability to motivate those around him to reach greater heights is truly commendable. I am honored to represent concerned and conscientious citizens such as Ron Rioux in the United States House of Representatives.

□ 1730

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

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

#### SUPPORTING AND PROPERLY EQUIPPING OUR BRAVE TROOPS OVERSEAS

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

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Staff Sergeant Eugene Simon of Beaumont, Texas. It has come to my attention through a number of e-mails and other contacts from

families in my district about the concerns that many of them are having about our fighting men and women in Iraq. But Staff Sergeant Eugene Simon of Beaumont wrote to me recently, and I want to bring to our colleagues' attention his e-mail that he sent me from his station there in Iraq.

Staff Sergeant Simon and his fellow troops are having a hard time protecting themselves from hostile action, especially in the Humvees they are traveling around in in Iraq. He said that he and the other brave, committed and dedicated troops, and this is his quote, "cut some metals to put a little something on each door" of their Humvees. And that is because they do not have the proper armor on their transportation.

I inspected an armored Humvee today on Capitol Hill, and it disgusts me that our troops have to weld scrap metal on to their Humvees. Troops need properly armored vehicles. They need to withstand small arms attacks and roadside bombs. Can we really afford to sell our troops short when it comes to providing them what they need to protect their lives?

That is why I have sent a letter to the Department of Defense calling for immediate action at whatever the cost might be to provide the equipment and the materials to protect our brave young fighting men and women, and I ask every Member of Congress to join me in demanding more protection for our troops. It is an absolute outrage to me that rock stars on the streets of Los Angeles have safer limousines and safer transportation than our brave men and women do in Iraq. This situation cannot continue.

Let us keep supporting our brave troops for all their valiant efforts overseas. We want them to know that, and we do indeed. But let us also let them know that their country stands behind them with our actions, not just our talk.

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 Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

#### DOING BETTER FOR AMERICA

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, Congress is now working on a final budget, a \$2.3 trillion budget with a \$521 billion