

this is a failure that jeopardizes the success of our mission to Afghanistan and jeopardizes the very credibility of the Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, we often say that failure is not an option. Alas, in Afghanistan failure is a distinct possibility, and unless allied leaders in the next few weeks demonstrate the political will to deploy the necessary assets in Afghanistan, failure gradually will become a reality.

Two weeks ago, this Member returned from the NATO Parliamentary Assembly meeting in Bratislava. Recognizing the gravity of the situation in Afghanistan, the leaders of the 26 national delegations—in an unprecedented action—authorized this Member, as the President of the Assembly, to send a letter to our national leaders, expressing the concern of the Assembly and urging governments to provide the necessary resources for ISAF.

Mr. Speaker, this Member will also raise these concerns with those national leaders in an address to the Istanbul Summit later this month. Likewise, the Bush Administration at Istanbul must press our allies to dig deep and find the extra personnel and resources that are needed to make this mission a success.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

SMART SECURITY

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, no one disagrees that to keep our country secure, we must become independent of foreign fuels, while at the same time we must control the rising energy costs here in our country. Where the disagreement arises is how this should be done.

Today, the House leadership brought up four energy bills in an attempt to look like they are addressing our energy needs. From rehashing a bill that already passed the House not once but twice, that focuses on huge giveaways to big oil and gas companies to a bill that would open up drilling in the arctic refuge, this is nothing more than a sham. None of these bills do anything to promote an energy policy that will keep us secure from terrorism and ensure that our energy needs are met. In fact, opening up the arctic refuge to drilling would increase global oil reserves by only .31 percent. That is right, only 31/100ths of 1 percent. That is less oil than the United States consumes in 6 months.

There has to be a better way, a more intelligent way, a way not rooted in ruthless expediency, but in the values that we hold dear. And there is. I have introduced legislation to create a SMART security platform for the 21st century. SMART stands for Sensible

Multilateral American Response to Terrorism. One of the components of SMART is a real strategy for energy independence, especially support for the development of renewable energy sources. Nothing threatens national security more than reliance on Middle Eastern oil.

This reliance cannot be met with drilling in the arctic refuge or with giveaways to big oil and gas companies. We must invest in renewable energy and in conservation. We must increase energy efficiency. Only through decreased dependence on oil will we make ourselves more secure.

Along with decreasing our dependence on foreign oil, we must stop the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Keeping the American people safe must be our highest priority. On that point the President and I agree, but we must avoid equating our security with aggression and military force. Just because one has a hammer, not every problem is a nail. The United States possesses the world's largest hammer in the form of its mighty military, but some situations require a more delicate touch. SMART security calls for aggressive diplomacy, a commitment to nuclear nonproliferation, strong regional security arrangements, and vigorous inspection regimes. The United States must set an example for the rest of the world by renouncing the first use of nuclear weapons and the development of new nuclear weapons.

We must maintain our commitment to existing international treaties like the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the Biological Weapons Convention, and the Chemical Weapons Convention. We must support and adequately fund programs like the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, which works with the Russian Federation and the states of the former Soviet Union to dismantle nuclear warheads, reduce nuclear stockpiles, and secure nuclear weapons in Russia. And we must replicate these programs in other troubled regions like North Korea and Iran.

Not every country will proactively choose to give up its nuclear program, and we can provide the incentives if we choose. In the long run, negotiating with other countries will keep us much safer than thinking that we can scare them into submission.

The Bush doctrine has been tried. It has failed. It is time for a new national security strategy. SMART security defends America by relying on the very best of America, our commitment to peace, our commitment to freedom, our compassion for the people of the world, and our capacity for multilateral leadership. SMART security is tough, it is pragmatic, and it is patriotic. SMART security is smart, and it will keep America safe.

HUMAN EMBRYO STEM CELL RESEARCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Florida (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, many people have probably seen the recent news coverage about Nancy Reagan's hope to see more funding go to human embryo stem cell research in the hopes of finding a cure for Alzheimer's disease. Indeed, recently Newsweek ran a cover story on this issue.

I am a physician, and I used to care for many patients with Alzheimer's disease, and I know first hand the anguish it causes to lose a loved one or to have a family member with this condition. I have three concerns that I would like to raise about this debate.

First of all, I am concerned that advocates for this embryo stem cell research are unethically playing on the emotions of millions of Americans. Of all the conditions that have been proposed as possibly treatable with stem cells, whether embryonic or adult stem cells, Alzheimer's disease is one of the least likely where stem cells could be useful.

I say this because on autopsy, the brains on Alzheimer's disease patients do not show a pure dropout of neurons. If it was a loss of normal nerve cells, cell therapy might have potential. The fact is the brains of Alzheimer's disease patients typically contain lesions called senile plaques and neurofibrillary tangles. The plaques, which accumulate on the outside of neurons, consist mainly of deposits of a protein called beta-amyloid. Chemical and cellular markers of inflammation are also present.

We need to find out what causes these plaques and how we can prevent them. It is not clear at all if the problem with Alzheimer's disease is treatable with cell replacement therapy. Most experts I have contacted feel that the more promising solution will be early detection, very early detection, and medication to prevent progression and not cell replacement therapy.

Secondly, I am quite concerned that people are being falsely led to believe that it is only embryo stem cells that might have potential here.

Mr. Speaker, the following diseases have been successfully treated with adult stem cells from humans: Parkinson's disease, blindness has been treated, relief of symptom of lupus, multiple sclerosis, and rheumatoid arthritis; the cure of combined immunodeficiency diseases, the treatment of several different types of leukemia, solid tumors, neuroblastomas, non-Hodgkin's lymphomas, multiple sclerosis. Indeed, the list goes on and on.

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However, there have been no successful treatments of any humans with embryo stem cells, and, as I have said repeatedly on this floor, they do not have an animal model of successfully treating an animal with embryo stem cells. Indeed, it is unclear if they will ever have clinical usefulness.