

now cochair this delegation with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MICA).

As an Italian American who also grew up in an ethnically diverse New Jersey city, I have admired Congressman Rodino's record as one who united people he represented. His career as a bridge builder has inspired a model on which I have based my actions as a representative of an ethnically diverse constituency.

This is the second time in 3 years, Mr. Speaker, that I have stood before the House of Representatives to express my condolences for the passing of a civil rights leader. In 2003, the Eighth Congressional District was unfortunate to lose the legendary Larry Doby.

I am honored to have represented these men who have molded the social milieu that America enjoys today. It is my hope that the passing of Congressman Peter Rodino will remind us of the legacy that he left behind and inspire us to apply his legacy to the legislation that we craft in this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, next Monday we will have a mass and burial. Our condolences go to his family. He was a great, great American.

#### SECURING AMERICA'S BORDERS AND COMBATING ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues in this Congress to continue fighting illegal immigration in our great country.

My Republican colleagues were joined by 42 sensible Democrats to make great strides towards securing our borders by enacting the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission with the passage of the REAL ID Act. As a freshman Member of this House, I am honored to have played a role in that process.

However, Mr. Speaker, more still can and must be done to secure our borders and combat illegal immigration. The terrorist attacks on our homeland highlighted the potentially disastrous effects of porous borders and the need to bolster border security.

The problem of illegal immigration also has additional far-reaching, dangerous effects. Ultimately, it punishes all who follow the laws and processes of the United States.

Immigration affects virtually every aspect of life in America. I am happy to have supported the amendments of both the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) to H.R. 1279 that just passed here today.

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The Goodlatte amendment adds 5 years to any sentence for violent crime for drug trafficking when the offender is an illegal alien and adds 15 years to a sentence if the alien has previously

been deported for a criminal offense and subsequently committed a crime of violence or drug trafficking. The amendment also requires the Homeland Security Department to give the National Crime Information Center the names of all individuals subject to deportation orders or who have signed voluntary deportation papers.

The Norwood amendment requires the Justice and Homeland Security Departments to conduct a joint study and to report to Congress within 1 year on the connection between illegal aliens and gang membership.

I was torn on voting for H.R. 1279 because of my concern for States' rights, but I was swayed in the end to vote for it because of the number of illegal aliens involved in gangs. With more than a million legal and illegal immigrants settling in the United States each year, a level higher than at any other time in our Nation's history, immigration has an impact on education, health care, Social Security, taxes, employment, the environment, crime and countless other areas of American life.

I sympathize with those who desperately wish to live the American dream here on American soil. I understand their desire for liberty, free markets and guaranteed rights. The demand for access to America is a resounding testament to the greatness of our Nation. However, immigration laws exist to provide the necessary steps for safe and legal entry into this country. We have an immigration process in place that simply must be followed.

Illegal immigration must be stopped, but we cannot and should not close our doors to those who wish to enter the country legally. We must increase our efforts at achieving closed borders with open guarded doors.

#### SMART SECURITY AND IRAQ PRISONER ABUSE

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, last week, the trial of low-level military officers involved in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal in Iraq reached a climactic turning point. Colonel James Pohl, the military judge trying PFC Private First Class Lyndie England declared a mistrial in the case. Now this case will have to be tried again from the very beginning.

England's case was thrown out after Private Charles Graner claimed that the photos of abuse at Abu Ghraib Prison were taken for training purposes. This claim contradicts England's guilty plea in which she accepted responsibility for her actions and admitted that she had acted outside the scope of military orders.

There is no shortage of evidence that England is guilty of having participated in the abuse of Iraqi prisoners which included subjecting the prisoners

to forced nudity, savage beatings, electric shock and harassment by dogs. Some prisoners, as a matter of fact, died as a result of the abuse. Nor is there a question that the abuse of prisoners violates our American ethical and moral code. Red, the color of blood, is the color that resulted from the beating in Abu Ghraib Prison last year. But now yellow is the color of the high-ranking military and administration officials who are cowering behind junior soldiers, hoping to duck responsibility for setting up a culture supporting the use of torture in American-run prisons in Iraq.

The question is, who is responsible for the abuses at Abu Ghraib Prison? Charles Graner's testimony suggests that the prison abuse scandal extends much higher than we have previously been told. Yet, only low-ranking soldiers have been held accountable for these abuses. Why have prosecutors investigated from the bottom-up instead of going straight to the source to find out who condoned these abuses? Why is there such a denial of culpability at the highest levels of the government?

Mr. Speaker, we must get to the bottom of this scandal because not only were the events at Abu Ghraib brutally inhuman and contrary to the democratic ideals of our open government, they also have endangered the American people. At a time when the United States is courting the support of the Arab world, the last thing we need to do is engage in the same atrocious violence as the thugs and terrorists that we are opposing. The images of American soldiers violating Iraqi prisoners is no doubt a rallying call for all those who want an excuse to hate and attack the United States.

Fortunately, there is a better way than this. I have developed a SMART Security Platform for the 21st Century. SMART is a Sensible, Multilateral American Response to Terrorism, and it will help reinvigorate America's foreign policy by focusing on conflict prevention, on international diplomacy and on multilateralism. SMART security recognizes security threats and addresses them, but instead of conducting our policies behind closed doors and through the barrels of a gun, SMART pursues open diplomacy and regional security arrangements to achieve our democratic goals.

Indiscriminate violence will not address the threats we face, because most of the post-September 11 security threats require a softer touch. That is why SMART security calls for dramatic increases in development aid and debt relief for the world's poorest countries to reduce the destitute conditions that give rise to terrorism. And they will simultaneously increase educational opportunities for the world's poorest people. These programs will also help counter the image problem that America has cultivated around the world and particularly in the Middle East.

Instead of encouraging militaristic policies that give rise to events such as