

the equivalent of a three-dollar bill. The medicine should have gone into the dumpster outside of the drug store, and not on the drug store shelf.

Tim is not the only victim of counterfeit drugs.

Counterfeit prescription drugs are becoming an increasingly severe problem in the United States. In the past three years, Lipitor, Procrit, Epogen, and Serostim have been recalled due to a prevalence of counterfeits. According to the Pharmaceutical Security Institute, the value of counterfeit, seized and diverted drugs in the United States was almost \$200 million in 2003, seven times more than 2002. The World Health Organization has stated that worldwide, the counterfeit drug industry was worth about \$32 billion in 2003.

Counterfeit drugs may contain inactive substances like water or saline. They may also be re-labeled to show they have a higher dosage than what is actually in the vial, which leads patients to take much less medicine than is required. They may also contain wrong ingredients or contaminants. Since people taking these counterfeited drugs are already sick, it is harder for fakes to be detected. Victims of counterfeiting may believe that they are just not getting better or the worsened symptoms are an effect of their illness and not counterfeited drugs.

There are many opportunities for counterfeiters to enter the American pharmaceutical distribution system. New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer recently subpoenaed the three largest wholesalers, AmeriSourceBergen, McKesson, and Cardinal Health. However, there are about 12 large regional wholesalers and an estimated 6,500 smaller drug wholesalers.

More than half of all drugs go through this series of middlemen. The drugs go from the manufacturer to a large wholesaler, then through a number of smaller wholesalers, until finally making it to the local pharmacy. With prescription drugs repeatedly changing hands and the prospect of high profits, counterfeiters have the ability and the motive to interject these fake drugs into America's prescription drug distribution system.

My legislation aims to make it more difficult for counterfeiters to infiltrate the system. My bill calls for an audit trail of everyone's hands the drugs have been in, from manufacturer to pharmacy. It calls for the utilization of the best anti-counterfeiting technologies. It gives the FDA authority to recall drugs that may have been tampered with. It authorizes funds for spotchecking and education. Finally, it increases the criminal penalties for counterfeiters, including up to life in jail.

It is my hope that this Congress will address the issue of counterfeiting, and I am looking forward to working on a bipartisan basis to enact this legislation.

YOM HAATZMAUT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute Israel as it celebrates the 57th anniversary of Yom HaAtzmaut, Independence Day. The Jewish nation rose from the ashes of

World War II, and became a symbol of the survival of the Jewish people. Despite the genocidal actions of the Nazis, Jewish survivors of the Holocaust emigrated to Israel and dedicated themselves to transforming this desert region into a thriving nation.

Israel has never known a day of true peace. On May 14, 1948, the 5th of Iyar in the Hebrew calendar, the British Mandate expired and Israel declared its independence. That evening, the United States recognized the new nation. Less than 24 hours later, the regular armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq invaded Israel, forcing the fledgling state to fight for its survival. The War of Independence endured intermittently over the course of 15 months and claimed over 6,000 Israeli lives (nearly one percent of the country's Jewish population at the time). Since that time, Israel has fought to defend itself over and over again, in the 1956 War, the Six Day War, the Yom Kippur War, the Lebanon War and most recently, against two intifadas.

Reviled by its neighbors, Israel has nonetheless succeeded in becoming a vibrant democracy with one of the strongest economies in the Middle East. While it began as a poor agricultural nation, Israel has recently become a leader in technology research and development. Indeed, Israel's standard of living rivals that of any Western nation.

Mr. Speaker, on this day of Yom HaAtzmaut, I would like to recall the words spoken by Levi Eshkol, Prime Minister of Israel, at the end of the Six Day War: "We saw clearly that this is no mere ingathering of the exiles, but a new yet ancient nation, a united nation, which has been tempered in the furnace of one Israel, forged out of all our tribes and the remnants of scattered communities they, their sons and daughters. A nation has come into being which is ready for any effort or sacrifice in order to achieve its goals."

Mr. Speaker, I salute the people of Israel as they celebrate the 57th anniversary of the founding of their nation, and hope to join them in celebrating many more years of independence.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
POLICE WEEK

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 12, 2005

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to our fallen heroes and to offer my heartfelt thanks to our brave men and women in blue.

Yesterday, sadly, was an eerily familiar day. Once again, fighter jets circled the bright blue sky and alarms echoed throughout the halls of Congress. As my colleagues and I rushed off the House floor, a police officer exclaimed, "This is not a test! Run!"

Mr. Speaker, there was fear in the officer's eyes, but there was bravery in her voice. This was the moment for which she had trained, and she was determined to shepherd us to safety. I thanked God, once again, for the commitment, courage and competence of the Capitol Police.

Mr. Speaker, it is all too fitting that this week is National Police Week. When an unidentified aircraft entered restricted air space yesterday,

Members of Congress witnessed the efficiency and fearlessness of our police force first-hand. But it should not take an emergency for us to recognize those who risk their lives for our protection. It should not take a tragedy for us to say thank you.

Mr. Speaker, 415 names will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this week. I'd like to speak to you about one of the names that will be written on the Memorial, a name that many from my hometown of Baltimore hold in our hearts.

Almost exactly a year ago, Officer Brian D. Winder was killed in the line of duty as he responded to a 911 call. He was only 36. Mr. Speaker, you need only read the postings on Officer Winder's memorial website to know how much he meant to his wife, children, and fellow officers. In fact, if I may, I would like to read the posting written by Officer Winder's partner, LeTanye.

Hey B., today starts a tough time for me and a lot of others who miss you. I have that task of making sure that your family makes it through all of the ceremonies that are upcoming in honor of Police Memorial Week. There have been so many times, recently, that I just wanted to give up being a peace officer because it has gotten so much more dangerous for us on the streets. The department is falling apart one by one. These are things that you and I spent countless times discussing. But now you are gone and it's hard. My sister was attacked the other day by an unknown male and I told myself that I had to continue this job. I have to continue to see that my family and yours are safe. I know that you would want me to do so. I just ask that you stay by my side and help me continue the fight, even when I feel that I can't do it anymore.

Mr. Speaker, LeTanye has reason to feel lonely and overwhelmed. The President, and yes, this Congress, have abandoned her. The President's budget slashed billions of dollars from essential law enforcement programs like COPS, a program that had added thousands of police officers to our most dangerous neighborhoods. Now law enforcement officers like LeTanye will have to shoulder even more of the burden of our collective safety.

So, I ask you, how many more partners will LeTanye lose as a result of these cutbacks? Deep cuts to the COPS, Byrne grants and HIDTA programs endanger their lives and hinder their ability to protect our communities. How can we say to her, we know it's hard, and it's going to get harder because we aren't willing to give you the support you need? How can we look Capitol Police Officers in the face, knowing they are willing to give their lives for our protection, while we pass legislation that endangers theirs.

Mr. Speaker, we should honor all of our law enforcement officers by giving them the resources they need to do their jobs well and safely. We must do more than etch one more name onto a memorial wall. We must speak truth to power by etching a legacy of respect, gratitude and priority funding into our fiscal policies for our nation's law enforcement forces.

Thank you. I yield back the balance of my time.