

Enduring Freedom. Our legislation was never considered. Instead, House Speaker DENNY HASTERT directed the construction of a modest memorial listing names of the fallen in the foyer of the Rayburn House Office Building.

Because we consider the listing of names to be an insufficient way to honor the lives of our fallen servicemembers, I, along with other Members of Congress, began to display more proper memorials outside of our own office areas.

To fully appreciate the loss of a military hero, I believe it is important to see the face of what might have been the fathers, the mothers, the sons, the daughters. Hundreds of visitors from my district, and others, have stopped to view the faces of fallen marines from Camp Lejeune displayed outside my office door, and they have been impacted deeply by this memorial.

Madam Speaker, on one occasion, a mother from Minnesota came into my office with tears in her eyes and thanked me for displaying the picture of her son, who had been killed while serving our Nation.

I know that Speaker PELOSI understands the importance of honoring the men and women who have died in service to our country. I am very grateful that the Speaker has honored my request and the request of others that the House observe a moment of silence each month in honor of those killed or wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan.

As another sign of appreciation for these military heroes, I am hopeful that Speaker PELOSI will support those of us who wish to continue displaying memorials outside of our congressional offices in honor of the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

With that, Madam Speaker, I close by asking God to continue to bless our men and women in uniform and ask God to bless the families who have given a child dying for freedom in Iraq.

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

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

GLOBAL POVERTY

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

Mrs. CAPP. Today, I rise to speak about global poverty, and specifically to share my experiences as part of the House Democracy Assistance Commission Congressional Delegation visit recently to six African countries. This Commission supports the development of Democratic governments around the world by establishing peer-to-peer relationships with emerging Democratic legislatures.

There is one striking feature in most of the nations we visited on this trip, and they included Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritania, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Liberia. In each of these countries, at least half of the population lives on less than \$2 a day.

You know, in so much of the Continent of Africa, a continent vibrant and rich with resources and wonderful people, it's overwhelming to see up close and in very personal ways the fact that adults regularly die from preventable disease and children so horribly malnourished.

In fact, according to UNICEF, even in today's modern world, with all the technology that is available, over 26,000 children under the age of five die every single day due to poverty. Just think of it. Twenty-six thousand lives lost each day.

This number, more than any other, brings home to me with cruel immediacy the absolute desperate needs of the world's poor. As we know, poverty is not only the result of economic and social policy shortcomings, it also thrives on war. This scourge is the means by which incredible gender and minority inequality flourishes.

I am thinking now of women in the Democratic Republic of Congo who, even as we speak, are enduring unspeakable acts of sexual violence and degradation. The lives of so many of the world's people are horribly short and difficult because we have all failed to properly distribute the abundant resources of Mother Earth.

These facts are reprehensible and would seem to leave us without hope in the future. But wherever poverty may have taken hold in Africa, it has failed to take hold of the African spirit.

In Malawi, a country where 62 percent of the population lives on less than \$2 a day, and where an estimated 15 percent of the adult population is HIV positive, we visited health programs that are a tribute to what is possible when we unite to help each other.

As a nurse, I took special note of our visits to orphan and health care programs run by the Global AIDS Interfaith Alliance, as well as Direct Relief International. These are local, non-profit agencies that are supported directly by many constituents of mine in my congressional district, and I was honored and humbled to see where these gifts of my friends and neighbors at home, where these gifts are being used so fruitfully in these countries to support and nurture and nourish the lives of orphan children and women suffering with HIV and AIDS.

From HIV prevention, school tuition, and transport to pediatric HIV treatment centers, as well as caring for the ill, these organizations, and there are many of them, and the incredible people that work for them and with them, are helping to bring change to the lives of Malawian children and families.

The African spirit was also thriving in countries like Kenya and Liberia, both of which are working very hard to

maintain and strengthen their Democratic institutions, countries where we enjoyed democracy building with their parliaments. It was a team effort. And it was a real honor, again, to be there on behalf of our U.S. Congress.

It will not be easy to turn the tide of poverty in Africa. But, working together, progress is being made. I implore my colleagues to keep this continent, the cradle of life, at the forefront of our minds on this House floor.

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

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

□ 1730

BLOCKADE OF IRAN

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

Mr. PAUL. A couple of weeks ago, there was a resolution introduced in the Congress, H. Con. Res. 362, that quickly got 220 cosponsors. I want to talk a little bit more about that resolution because there are some Members of Congress now having second thoughts about invoking a blockade on Iran.

Take, for instance, here's a quote from Congressman ROBERT WEXLER of Florida. He says, "Given my growing concerns regarding this resolution, including its failure to advocate for direct American engagement with Tehran and open language that could lead to a U.S. blockade of Iran, I will lead an effort to make changes to this resolution before it comes to the Foreign Affairs Committee for a vote."

The chairman of the Financial Services Committee, BARNEY FRANK, had this to say: "I am all for stricter sanctions against Iran, but the blockade part goes too far. I am going to call the sponsors and tell them I am changing my vote."

I would like all Members of Congress to reconsider, because this I consider a very dangerous sense of congress resolution and that it is going to lead to trouble.

There is a new pro-Israeli lobby established called J Street, and they had some comments about this legislation as well. Their comments are this: "We as a group oppose preemptive military action by either the United States or Israel and we support stronger U.S. diplomacy. To us, it is common sense that saber rattling and constant threats are counterproductive. What better way to unite Iran behind its most hawkish leaders than threatening to attack? What better way to empower the Iranian hardliners' case for nuclear weapons development than to talk of a military attack?"