

undermines a free society. I challenge the entertainment industry, the Internet industry, the video game industry, and the media to become good corporate citizens. Monitor the material that flows to our kids.

I applaud the Disney Company for taking some steps in the right direction, but the whole industry must join in the cause. Keep casual gunplay out of the movies. Keep hate music out of the music stores. Keep bomb-making web sites off the Internet. Do not make video games so violent that they warp young minds.

Free expression does not necessarily have to lead to moral chaos. Let us join together in finding ways to help parents raise their children to be good productive citizens.

GOD BLESS AMERICA'S VETERANS

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I have the privilege of representing the Third District of North Carolina. The Third District covers most of the eastern part of the State, including five military bases: Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station, New River Marine Corps Air Station, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, Elizabeth City Coast Guard Station, and Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base.

In eastern North Carolina we are also proud to be the home of 77,000 thousand of our Nation's 25 million living veterans. Madam Speaker, these are the men and women who courageously served to protect this country and preserve the principles that it was founded upon.

Out of respect and appreciation, we must ensure the sacrifice these brave soldiers made is something we never forget and that the vital role they play in this country's history remains as unmistakable as our commitment to their continued well-being.

As President Abraham Lincoln said in his Second Inaugural Address: "Let us care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

This statement is said to reveal the government's promise to provide lifetime health care for our veterans and their families, a promise that many of my colleagues in Congress and I continue fighting to fulfill.

Madam Speaker, today I am here to share with my colleagues good news, to tell them of two successful efforts by the government to provide our Nation's veterans with the health care that they need and deserve.

Two weeks ago I had the pleasure of attending the dedication of a new community-based outpatient clinic in Jacksonville, North Carolina. For the veterans of Onslow County, this is a

tremendous victory and the result of a great deal of work and determination.

It has been a priority of mine for some time to find a way to see that a satellite facility was built in eastern North Carolina. For too long, many veterans were forced to travel to Fayetteville, North Carolina or Durham, North Carolina to reach the closest VA hospital.

Madam Speaker, as my colleagues can see, we were in desperate need of health care services that were more accessible to the veterans of eastern North Carolina. The journey was long, but we now have two reasons to celebrate.

The Jacksonville facility marks the second outpatient clinic in eastern North Carolina. It has just been joined by a third. Earlier this week, an additional VA clinic opened in Greenville, North Carolina. They both serve as tributes to the commitment to duty, God, and country that each of our soldiers accept.

Madam Speaker, I am proud of the efforts of the Department of Veterans Affairs to reach out to veterans across this country, especially considering the drastic cuts they have suffered. Since the end of 1994, the Department of Veterans Affairs has cut 20,000 medical care employees, eliminated half of its acute-care hospital beds, and merged many neighboring hospitals. Following such extreme fiscal cutbacks, the Administration's budget request for Fiscal Year 2000 was worth little more than the paper it was printed on.

Fortunately, I am proud to stand here today to report that a Republican Congress has increased the VA budget \$1.7 billion over the President's recommendation. And I only wish that it could be more.

Madam Speaker, today I came to the floor to reaffirm my commitment to the men and women who answered their call to duty and protected the freedom my colleagues and I enjoy today. I urge my colleagues to join me in fighting to make sure our Nation's veterans have access to quality, accessible health care, a promise made to them by the government they pledged to protect.

Again, I want to quote Abraham Lincoln when he said it, and he said it best: "Let us care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

Madam Speaker, it is the least we can do to thank our Nation's heroes, our United States veterans. God bless America, and God bless those who have served and those who are serving America today.

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CALLING FOR END TO FAILED POLICY IN YUGOSLAVIA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Under a previous order of

the House, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. WHITFIELD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, how long must the bombing of Yugoslavia continue? I have asked that question repeatedly on this floor over the last week, and no one seems to have an answer. Where is the President leading us?

Today, the New York Times, which is generally supportive of the President, contained an article written by Michael Gordon entitled, NATO's Battle Within: Is Leadership Missing? In the article, Mr. Gordon wrote that NATO strategy for bringing the war to a successful close is starting to unravel. Without clear direction from Washington, Britain, Germany and Italy have begun to promote publicly their separate and conflicting plans. Britain wants ground troops in Kosovo and Yugoslavia. Germany is opposed to ground troops. Italy wants to stop the bombing. In the article, they quoted the former Director of European Affairs at the National Security Council who was quoted as saying, there is a lack of direction because no one is leading the way.

Mr. President, why do you not lead the way and stop the bombing? Mr. President, Italy today has urged NATO to impose a 48-hour bombing pause to pursue a diplomatic settlement. I urge you to stop the bombing.

Just last night, NATO launched its strongest air attack in 2 weeks against the Belgrade area. Our bombs hit a hospital and at least three civilians were killed. Furthermore, an operating room was demolished, an intensive care unit was leveled, and rescuers were evacuating women and children from the maternity ward, just last night in Belgrade, because of our bombings. In addition, the Swedish ambassador's residence was damaged when an exploding bomb blew out windows and a door.

Mr. President, your policy is not working. Not only are we losing the support of our allies but bombing has exacerbated the refugee problem among the Kosovar Albanians and now, because of the bombings, the Serbian people themselves. From a policy point, it is difficult to imagine how the situation could be much worse. Our bombs have killed innocent people, destroyed hospitals, leveled the embassy of China, damaged the infrastructure, and now even damaged the residence of the Swedish ambassador to Yugoslavia. The incessant bombing has transformed what was a Balkan crisis into a worldwide crisis. In fact, the New York Times Sunday reported how demonstrations are erupting all over the world against the bombing.

So I would say to the President, what do you want? The Yugoslavian government is beginning to remove forces from Kosovo. They have expressed a willingness to negotiate. How many