

taught us anything, it should have reminded us of the central role that nuclear weapons play in strategic relationships around the world. From India and Pakistan to China, we are reminded that nothing alters the balance of power faster than a change in nuclear capability. If we do not protect our own nuclear deterrent against espionage and against aging, the security of our Nation and ideals will be threatened. We should act today when the path is clear and the time is right.

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON MENTAL HEALTH

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

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I had the great honor of taking part in the landmark White House Conference on Mental Health. This conference brought together mental health providers, consumers and people from the private sector, and our goal was to develop strategies to eliminate the existing stigmas and encourage an environment of health where people with mental illness can thrive. The conference highlighted promising practices to limit discrimination, improve prevention and treatment and explore new steps so that we can take positive direction in helping people with mental illness. The conference was downlinked to over 6,000 sites around this country, including one in Santa Barbara, California, so that communities can come together in these important issues.

Earlier this year I introduced House Resolution 133, a bipartisan resolution which currently has 100 cosponsors to focus public attention on this historic event. I was proud to have a constituent here to take part in the conference, Annmarie Cameron. She is the Executive Director of the Santa Barbara Mental Health Association, and brought her expertise from the central coast of California here to Washington, D.C. Working with the Santa Barbara Mental Health Association Board, Annmarie has been instrumental in affecting public policy on numerous issues. She has focused her considerable skills on increasing funding for mental health services, diverting persons with mental health disabilities from the criminal justice system, developing special needs housing for the homeless mentally ill. Her hands-on experience and professional expertise was a great asset to today's discussions.

I want to commend the President and especially Mrs. Tipper Gore for convening this conference. As Mental Health Policy Adviser to the President, Mrs. Gore brings knowledge and understanding of this complex subject and has devoted much of her life to raising awareness of mental health related

issues. Just recently she took the brave step of publicizing her own battle with depression and her family history of mental illness. Her work will benefit people all around the country who have so long suffered in silence.

At today's conference I cochaired a panel on the Education and Training for Health Care Providers. There were many good panels. In ours, we focused how we can train our front-line medical providers as well as teachers to spot the signs of mental illness in children and then refer them for necessary care.

As a school nurse for 20 years, I know that the signs of mental illness are sometimes difficult to detect. The people who work with our kids and young adults need to be proactive in screening for mental illness. If we detect problems earlier, we have a much better chance of giving our children a better opportunity to live a healthier life.

As we think about the school environment we provide for our children and our local communities, we are mindful of the kind of resources our young people need as they grow and develop.

School violence is the tip of the iceberg, but of course it catches our attention, and it should. I have proposed increasing the funding within the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act to provide more counselors for our middle schools. In California, we have the fewest number per student in the Nation.

At this time there are 10 million adults in our Nation who suffer serious and chronic effects from mental illness, but for years the problem of mental illness has been swept under the rug. Sadly, people in need of help fall through the cracks of our mental health system every day.

Some cases, like the shooting in the Capitol or the New York subway incident grab headlines, but this systemic failure is repeated all too often throughout our country in so many daily tragic situations for people who suffer from mental illness as well as their families, their friends, and their communities. Our goal must be to attain greater insight into the troubling nature of mental illness and formulate policies to address these needs.

Today's landmark conference was an excellent step in the right direction by engaging in meaningful dialog on these issues which affect so many Americans. We are educating ourselves. With education comes understanding, and hopefully with understanding will come treatment and relief for the millions of people and their families who suffer mental illness every day.

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A POSITIVE SPIN ON AN UGLY WAR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin). Under a previous

order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the Yugoslavian civil war, now going on for years, was near ending until NATO chose to enter on the side of the KLA seeking independence. Aggressively entering the fray by invading a foreign nation, in direct opposition to its charter, NATO has expanded the war and multiplied the casualties. The impasse now reached, although predictable, prompts only more NATO bombing and killing of innocent civilians on both sides. It is difficult to see how any good can come from this continuous march of folly, but I am going to try.

Number one, the U.N. has suffered a justified setback in its effort to be the world's governing body of the new world order, and that is good. By NATO refusing to seek a U.N. resolution of support for its war effort, it makes the U.N. look irrelevant. Now NATO is using the U.N. to seek a peace settlement by including the Russians, who agree to play the game as long as additional American tax dollars flow to them through the IMF. The U.N. looks weak, irrelevant, ignored, and used. The truth is winning out.

Number two, NATO is on the verge of self-destruction. Since the purpose of NATO to defend against a ruthless Soviet system no longer exists, that is good, NATO, in choosing to break its own rules looks totally ineffective and has lost credibility. The U.S. can get out of NATO, come home, save some money and let Europe tend to its own affairs, and we can then contribute to peace, not war.

Number three, Tony Blair's true character has now become known to the world. He has not only annoyed many Americans, but many Germans, French, Italians and Greeks as well. By Blair demanding more American bombs, money and the introduction of ground troops, many have become skeptical of his judgment. It is much easier now to challenge his influence over Bill Clinton and NATO, and that is not only good, but necessary.

Number four, more Americans every day are discovering that military spending is not equivalent to defense spending. This is a good start. It is clearly evident that when useless immoral wars are pursued, money is wasted, weapons are consumed, and national security is endangered, opposite to everything that is supposed to be achieved through defense spending. A foolish policy of foreign interventionism, no matter how much money is spent on the military, can never substitute for a sensible, pro-American policy of friendship and trade with all those countries willing to engage.

Number five, the ill-gotten war has shown once again that air power alone, and especially when pursued without a declaration of war and a determination