

CORRECTING ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 2348, AUTHORIZING BUREAU OF RECLAMATION TO PROVIDE COST SHARING FOR ENDANGERED FISH RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS FOR UPPER COLORADO

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 151) to make a correction in the enrollment of the bill, H.R. 2348, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLILEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 151

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring). That in the enrollment of the bill (H.R. 2348) entitled "An Act to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost sharing for the endangered fish recovery implementation programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins," the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following correction:

Strike section 4 and insert:

"SEC. 4. EFFECT ON RECLAMATION LAW.

"Specifically with regard to the acreage limitation provisions of Federal reclamation law, any action taken pursuant to or in furtherance of this title will not—

"(1) be considered in determining whether a district as defined in section 202(2) of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390bb) has discharged its obligation to repay the construction cost of project facilities used to make irrigation water available for delivery to land in the district;

"(2) serve as the basis for reinstating acreage limitation provisions in a district that has completed payment of its construction obligations; or

"(3) serve as the basis for increasing the construction repayment obligation of the district and thereby extending the period during which the acreage limitation provisions will apply."

The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 5308, FIVE NATIONS CITIZENS LAND REFORM ACT OF 2000

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that in the engrossment of the bill (H.R. 5308) to amend laws relating to the lands of the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek), Seminole, Cherokee, Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations, historically referred to as the Five Civilized Tribes, and for other purposes, the Clerk be authorized to make the following correction that I have placed at the desk.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. WALDEN of Oregon:

At the end of section 403, add the following new paragraph:

"(2) OTHER CONSTRUCTION NOT VALID.— Nothing in this subsection is intended to or shall be construed to create, affect, or imply the existence or nonexistence of authority of any federally recognized Indian tribe over—

"(A) any other federally recognized Indian tribe;

"(B) the members of any other federally recognized Indian tribe; or

"(C) any land in which any other federally recognized Indian tribe or any member of any other federally recognized Indian tribe has or is determined by the Secretary or a court of competent jurisdiction to have any interest."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when proceedings resume on the unfinished business of the motion to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 964) to provide for equitable compensation for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, and for other purposes, as amended, that the amendment be deemed to include the corrections that I have placed at the desk.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. WALDEN of Oregon:

Strike Title IV of the bill and insert instead—

"TITLE IV—CONVEYANCE OF KINIKLIK VILLAGE

"SEC. 401. CONVEYANCE OF KINIKLIK VILLAGE.

"(a) That portion of the property identified in United States Survey Number 628, Tract A, containing 0.34 acres and Tract B containing 0.63 acres located in Section 26, Township 9 North, Range 10 East, Seward Meridian, containing 0.97 acres, more or less, and further described as Tracts A and B Russian Creek Church Mission Reserve according to U.S. Survey 628 shall be offered for a period of one year for sale by quitclaim deed from the United States by and through the Forest Service to Chugach Alaska Corporation under the following terms:

"(1) Chugach Alaska Corporation shall pay consideration in the amount of \$9,000.00;

"(2) In order to protect the historic values for which the Forest Service acquired the land, Chugach Alaska Corporation shall agree to and the conveyance shall contain the same reservations required by 43 CFR §§ 2653.5(a) and 2653.11(b) for protection of historic and cemetery sites conveyed to a Regional Corporation pursuant to section 14(h)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

"(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Forest Service shall deposit the

proceeds from the sale to the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund established by Public Law 102-154 and may be expended without further appropriation in accordance with Public Law 102-229."

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Oregon?

There was no objection.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 5 p.m.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 5 p.m.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BLILEY) at 5 p.m.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE CREW OF THE GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER U.S.S. "COLE"

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be discharged from further consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 631) honoring the members of the crew of the guided missile destroyer U.S.S. *Cole* (DDG-67) who were killed or wounded in the terrorist bombing attack on that vessel in Aden, Yemen, on October 12, 2000, expressing the sympathies of the House of Representatives to the families of those crew members, commending the ship's crew for their heroic damage control efforts, and condemning the bombing of that ship, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 631

Whereas the guided missile destroyer U.S.S. *COLE* (DDG-67) was severely damaged on October 12, 2000, when a boat bomb exploded alongside that ship while on a refueling stop in Aden, Yemen;

Whereas the explosion resulted in a 40-by-45 foot hole in the port side of the ship at the waterline and left seven of the ship's crew dead, ten of who as of October 17, 2000, are missing and presumed dead, and over three dozen wounded;

Whereas the U.S.S. COLE had stopped in Aden for routine refueling while in transit from the Red Sea to the Persian Gulf to conduct forward maritime presence operations in the Persian Gulf region as part of the U.S.S. George Washington battle group;

Whereas the members of the United States Navy killed and wounded in the bombing were performing their duty in furtherance of the national security interests of the United States;

Whereas United States national security interests continue to require the forward deployment of elements of the Armed Forces;

Whereas the members of the Armed Forces are routinely called upon to perform duties that place their lives at risk;

Whereas the crew members of the U.S.S. COLE who lost their lives as a result of the bombing of their ship on October 12, 2000, died in the honorable service to the Nation and exemplified all that is best in the American people; and

Whereas the heroic efforts of the surviving crew members of the U.S.S. COLE after the attack to save their ship and rescue their wounded shipmates are in the highest tradition of the United States Navy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives, in response to the terrorist bombing attack on the U.S.S. COLE (DDG-67) on October 12, 2000, while on a refueling stop in Aden, Yemen, hereby—

(1) honors the members of the crew of the U.S.S. COLE who died as a result of that attack and sends heartfelt condolences to their families, friends, and loved ones.

(2) honors the members of the crew of the U.S.S. COLE who were wounded in the attack for their service and sacrifice, expresses its hopes for their rapid and complete recovery, and extends its sympathies to their families;

(3) commends the crew of the U.S.S. COLE for their heroic damage control efforts; and

(4) condemns the attack against the U.S.S. COLE as an unprovoked and cowardly act of terrorism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) is recognized for 1 hour.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 631.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a profound sense of sadness that I join my colleague, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), in offering this resolution for consideration by the House.

Last Thursday, October 12, 2000, a small boat exploded alongside the U.S.S. Cole during a brief refueling stop in the port of Aden in Yemen. The blast ripped a 40 by 45 foot hole in her side, killing 17 sailors and wounding some three dozen more.

This unprovoked and cowardly act of terrorism was perpetrated against an American warship while en route to the Persian Gulf to conduct maritime operations in the legitimate pursuit of our national security interests abroad.

The resolution before the House condemns this senseless act of violence against our military forces and expresses the sympathies of the House of Representatives to the families of those crew members who were killed or wounded in the attack.

What can you say? What can you do? How can you really express to the families of these young men and women our profound sympathies and appreciation for their commitment?

Mr. Speaker, as we meet today, hundreds of thousands of young Americans from all corners of our great Nation are serving in the military, overseas and here at home. They go about their daily duty quietly and without fanfare. Yet, until something like this happens, we, as a Nation, tend to forget what they do every single day of the year to uphold our values, to protect our freedom and deter those who seek to do us harm.

Mr. Speaker, we forget; freedom is not free.

The resolution before us today appropriately, I think, recognizes and honors the price of freedom paid by the members of the crew of the U.S.S. Cole.

We are free and secure as a Nation today because of all the men and women of our military who fought to gain our freedom and independence, in the very first instance during the Revolutionary War, and have gone all over this world in war and peace since that time defending that freedom, every day. People who are no longer with us, they have done it.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know. I think as we honor these today, who have paid the price for freedom, and their families too, I think of all the others who have gone before too, who have paid the price, with their lives, their limbs, their health, many were prisoners of war, many are still missing in action, we should remember every single day we live that the price of freedom has been paid by other people, so that we can be free today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such 3 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, Members speak on this floor for many reasons. We debate, we advocate, we commemorate, we celebrate.

Today, though, I rise to give honor to a crew of brave Americans, the crew of the U.S.S. Cole, and to give warning.

I want to honor those who gave their lives or were wounded while serving their country in a distant port, far away from home and in the cause of

furthering the national security interests of our country. I also want to honor the surviving crew members, who stayed with the crippled ship and worked valiantly to recover their wounded or missing shipmates and to repair the damage to their ship.

And while I say I speak to give them honor, truly it is they who honor us. They and the millions of others who wear our country's uniform, who honor America by their gift of service and dedication.

I also want to extend my deepest sympathies to the families and to the friends of those who perished in this tragedy. Although I know they are saddened by their loss, they should take comfort in that their loved ones died pursuing the most noble of callings, serving in the Armed Forces of the United States. They should know that we in Congress, and indeed the people of this great Nation, are grateful for their extraordinary service and sacrifice.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give warning. Those who committed this barbarous act are already being judged beyond our capacity to review. But to those whose dark and craven hearts conceived it, hear this: While you may walk free today in a sunshine you have denied so many others, so many families, so many communities, know simply and surely that you will be held accountable.

Our memory is long, our reach is no less so. This outrage cost lives, Mr. Speaker, and it left others in peril. We hear that this many men were hurt, or that many women were hurt. No, Mr. Speaker. They are all American sailors, one and all, and an injury to anyone is an insult to America.

I do not doubt that such insult was the goal of the perpetrators. But they should understand that they will pay a price for this heinous act. Justice and the memory of those whose lives have been lost demand no less.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER).

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution. My heartfelt condolences go out to the families of the men and women who were killed or wounded in this cowardly act, an act that was despicable and premeditated.

This tragedy is a distressing reminder though of how dangerous the world has become since the end of the Cold War. As the unprovoked attack on the U.S.S. Cole demonstrates, the men and women of the Armed Services are exposed daily to very real threats of death, violence and destruction. For these reasons, our men and women in uniform, indeed, all Americans, must remain vigilant in the defense of freedom and our interests. Equally important, we must do everything we can to provide for our military personnel the resources necessary to protect them as

they defend our interests around the world and that of our allies.

While these brave defenders of freedom will greatly be missed, their spirit and legacy lives on. It is their values and their beliefs of duty, honor, courage and commitment to God, country, family and our fellow men and women that serve as an example for all of us to live and aspire.

I urge the President to take appropriate action against the perpetrators once the investigation is concluded and to take appropriate measured response.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and my heart goes out to the deceased sailors of the U.S.S. *Cole*.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SISISKY).

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, you have just heard it again. We said it last Thursday on this floor; the world is still a very dangerous place.

Many members of the Virginia delegation last Saturday met with the families of the wounded and the deceased in Norfolk, and many of us in this body just returned from Norfolk where we attended services honoring those who gave their lives on the U.S.S. *Cole*.

First, our condolences and prayers go out to the sailors who were hurt or killed and their families. We will continue to provide them with the best care and assistance that we possibly can.

For all of us from Hampton Roads, the fact that the U.S.S. *Cole's* home port is Norfolk, and I use the present tense, because that ship is coming home, the fact that U.S.S. *Cole* is a Norfolk ship brought this terrible tragedy a little closer to home.

It reminds us how much these young men and women in uniform really mean to us. They are our sons and our daughters, husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, neighbors and friends.

Knowing what happened makes us feel immeasurable pride in their lives, inconsolable grief for their deaths, and gratitude for the homecoming of their shipmates. Their ship made a sacrifice for which we feel an unbearable sense of loss.

In the Bible, when his friends died in battle, King David said: "They were beloved and pleasant in life, and in death they were together; they were swifter than eagles, they were strong as lions."

That is exactly what we say.

And now it is our responsibility to love and support their families, protect and defend their country, and honor their memory forever.

But those who survive may face the toughest challenge, and I want them to know that all Americans are deeply grateful for their service to our country.

Indeed, this world is still a very dangerous place.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), a member of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart in support of House Resolution 631, to honor the men and women of the U.S.S. *Cole*.

□ 1715

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Chairman SPENCE) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), the ranking member, as well as the leadership, for moving rapidly and allowing the House of Representatives to speak to this important national moment.

I represent Navy country in south Texas, so we have a special perspective of their service and a loss in a hostile action. Two of the soldiers who lost their lives in the insidious act of terror were south Texas' Specialist Third Class Ronchester Mananga Santiago of Kingsville and Fireman Gary Graham Swenchonis, Jr. of Rockport, Texas.

Texas also lost Information Systems Technician Seaman Timothy Lee Gauna of Rice.

Two women from south Texas were also on the ship, Elizabeth Sanchez LaFountaine of Brownsville, who sustained a broken leg, and Esther Arriaga Hood of Corpus Christi, who is still aboard the *Cole*.

Texasans are proud that our sons and daughters seek to serve a larger purpose by volunteering to serve in the United States military service. It is, Mr. Speaker, a noble undertaking, but it often means that those sons and daughters pay a heavy price to serve and protect the United States' interests.

Our hearts wrench at the thought of our neighbors answering the door to see the drawn faces of naval officers there to deliver the most devastating news a parent can ever hear.

This should bring home the reality of all others that service in our military today is a highly dangerous prospect for our soldiers and sailors.

Just because we are not at war does not guarantee a level of safety for those who serve in our military. This tragic incident has brought together the ship's crew in a way no other experiences could, the way only sailors have seen and been in battle together can understand.

These young people have learned to depend upon each other in the aftermath of this cowardly act. They worked tirelessly to save the U.S.S. *Cole* after the explosion.

Mr. Speaker, we mourn the young people who perished. We will hold up those who were injured, and we will continue to pray for the safety of men and women in uniform around the world. We offer our condolences to the families.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE), a member of the committee.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep admiration that I rise to express gratitude and respect for the sacrifices given of the men and women serving on board the U.S.S. *Cole*.

Speaking as the senior Democrat on the Subcommittee on Military Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services, I want to indicate that these men and women, like thousands of other Americans across the world, volunteered each and every day to defend and protect this Nation. Sadly, on October 12, several sailors of the U.S.S. *Cole* paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country while carrying out their duties.

My heart and prayers are with these sailors' friends, families and loved ones.

Despite the explosion that ripped through the U.S.S. *Cole* and wounded many members of the crew, these dedicated sailors continue to defend their ship and rescue other wounded shipmates. Their actions exemplify the perseverance of Americans and the finest tradition of our Armed Services.

I want to commend and pay tribute to these selfless Americans for their service and dedication and wish them a speedy recovery.

Mr. Speaker, terrible events such as these put a face to patriotism. They remind us that those in uniform around the world are young men and women from our towns and cities who volunteer in service to their country. Last year, they graduated from high school down the street; perhaps they worked at the corner store. Today they unflinchingly stare danger in the face with selfless dedication.

This tragedy reminds us of the human element of our armed forces and highlights the importance of maintaining a focus on those policies that best serve these young patriots, our military personnel, and enhance the quality of their lives.

Finally, this tragedy offers a window into the composition of today's military. I want to quote, Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, a piece from yesterday's Boston Globe: "The faces of the 17 sailors who were killed aboard the U.S.S. *Cole* by a terrorist bomb attack last week are a portrait of today's America, a mosaic of colors of which the U.S. military is justly proud. To call out their given names is to sing a contemporary chorus of 'This Land is Your Land.' Two of the casualties even represent a grim kind of civil rights milestone: They are the first women killed in naval action."

Mr. Speaker, the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* embodies what is great in America—our people and their courage, dedication, commitment, and sacrifice. To the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole*, their families, friends and loved ones,

thank you for your service to a most grateful nation.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. BILBRAY).

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, our hearts go out and our prayers go out to the families of the 17 men and women who were lost in this tragic incident in the Red Sea. Coming from a naval family myself, born on a Navy base and raised with a father who went off to sea months at a time, I understand the challenges that not only the active duty personnel go through but also the trials and tribulations of those who are left behind, the families, the loved ones.

This is a great Nation that demands great sacrifices to maintain its greatness, and I think we underestimate the price of our greatness so often. This last week, we were able to see exactly what kind of price Americans have to pay for our greatness. San Diego has some of the largest military installations in the world, Mr. Speaker. In fact, it is the largest naval facility on the West Coast.

San Diego is especially proud of our military tradition; but this week, we are grieving for the loss of our native daughter, Lakiba Nicole Palmer. Ms. Palmer was only 22 years old and a seaman recruit fresh out of boot camp. She was looking forward to a bright new future and a challenging new career.

Along with another woman, Seaman Palmer sadly are the first women killed in a hostile action against an American combat ship.

Mr. Speaker, what is particularly tragic for this family and to our community is that she was looking so much towards her service as an American sailor. She was an athlete at San Diego High School in my district, Mr. Speaker, and she was a member of the all-academic team on the track in 1995. It was known that she was a fierce competitor who always tried harder than anyone else.

Mr. Speaker, our hearts go out to the family of this young lady and our sympathies to the family. And I just ask every one of us to remember when we vote here in the House at what price the freedom of representative government comes to and what a great responsibility we have, not just to our colleagues and our citizens, but also to our men and women who stand in harm's way every day and every night.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), a member of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time and thank him for his leadership, as well as the gentleman from South Carolina (Chairman SPENCE), at this terrible tragic time for our country.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 631, honoring the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* and extending our sympathy to their families and their loved ones. My wife, Carolina, and I attended the memorial service held this morning for the brave sailors who have lost their lives in this tragic and despicable act of terrorism.

All of our thoughts and our prayers are with them and their family members as they persevere under these very difficult times. My thoughts this morning, on a gray and somewhat drizzly midmorning ceremony, were that we simply do not do enough for our men and women in uniform and for their families.

It is truly unfortunate that it takes the loss of fine American men and women like these sailors to remind us again of the dangers and sacrifices that the men and women of our armed forces face each and every day. However, at the memorial service this morning, it was also reminded that we sometimes forget the everyday sacrifices that the families and the loved ones of our service members make each and every time their husbands, wives, sons, and daughters deploy.

We simply do not do enough for our men and women in uniform and their families. I am moved by their strength under these difficult circumstances and a difficult time and their commitment to the importance of their loved ones' mission and service to their country.

In return for that strength, we can only offer them our prayers and our guarantees that our country will not stop until we find the individuals responsible for this horrific act of senseless violence and bring them to justice.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I fervently believe we do not do enough for our men and women in uniform and for their families.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Norfolk, Virginia, area (Mr. SCOTT).

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in paying homage to the brave young crew members of the U.S.S. *Cole* who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, as well as those who are still missing and others who were injured and, of course, the families of all of these fine sailors.

Mr. Speaker, this is a particular tragedy for Virginia, because the U.S.S. *Cole* is home-based to the Norfolk Naval Base in Virginia. We were honored to have the President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staffs, both of our United States Senators, as well as all of the local congressmen in Norfolk today for the memorial service.

Mr. Speaker, while it is imperative that we take swift action to bring

those responsible to justice, we must not jump to hasty conclusions. We should remember that after the Oklahoma bombing, an innocent man was arrested for that heinous act, simply because of his ethnicity.

When we determine who is responsible for this attack, we will remember President Clinton's frequent admonition that America takes care of its own. When we determine who is responsible, our response will make those who did it sorry they did it, and we will cause others who might be thinking of doing the same to change their minds.

Mr. Speaker, all of the crew members of the U.S.S. *Cole* are to be saluted for their bravery and dedication to duties. These casualties remind us that freedom is not free. Their service to our Nation will long be remembered.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRBACHER).

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I gladly join my fellow colleagues in supporting this commemoration and this resolution.

I grew up in a military family. I remember when I was a young boy, I was 10 years old, my father was stationed in Japan. We lived in a small enclave of military families. All the kids' fathers were pilots, and one day the news came that the Chinese had shot down one of our friend's father's plane, and I still remember the heartache and the crying and the tears just as a little boy.

I remember seeing that and wondering what it was all about. But this family would no longer have a father, a wife would no longer have a husband, and there would be a vacant place around the Thanksgiving table and the Christmas tree. These sacrifices that our military people make, I do not think anybody knows the name of that gentleman and many gentlemen like him, men and women who have given their lives during the Cold War and since in order to protect our country.

They are truly heroes; and wherever they go, whatever job there is in the military, they know they are taking the chance, the chance of giving their lives and leaving their own loved ones alone in order to protect all of us and our loved ones. And how much greater tribute and how much greater sacrifice and how much greater service can there be than that?

□ 1730

So this resolution and the sacrifice of the American sailors who perished and suffered injuries on the U.S.S. *Cole* is something that we have to commemorate. This represents the voice of Congress, this resolution, in expressing our condolences to the families of those heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Unfortunately, the official radio of the United States government, the Voice of America, has been prevented

by our State Department, this administration, from doing the same thing that we are now doing in this resolution.

On October 16, the State Department, in an official message to the Voice of America, denied approval of the Voice of America editorial that would have been broadcast worldwide expressing the sorrow of the American people over the loss of our sailors, the damage done to the U.S.S. *Cole* and the loss of life of our brave defenders.

I am submitting for the RECORD a copy of this disgraceful State Department message to Voice of America saying that they cannot commemorate, cannot broadcast, this opinion about our brave men and the sacrifice they made. I will read that, for those who are listening and are reading the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, this is from the State Department to a request from the Voice of America to have an editorial memorializing these brave Americans who gave their lives for us.

It said: "This editorial will reach an audience that is caught up in violence in Israel and the Occupied Territories. The 17 or so dead sailors," that is American dead sailors, "does not compare to the 100+ Palestinians who have died in recent weeks where we have remained silent."

I would suggest it is the job of this administration and of the State Department to care more about our American military personnel who give their lives than it is to care about things, tragic events that are going on overseas. If our military people give their lives for their country, they should expect that we will memorialize them in a fitting way, and that this administration and that the State Department will not get in the way because of some far-flung event in another part of the world.

This is an insult. This is an insult to those brave people who gave their lives. As we remember them today, let us pass this resolution. Let us say our prayers for those families, and let us be very sincere in this effort. I am sorry that I had to read this State Department position here today, but I think it is important for the American people to know just what the attitude of this administration is toward our people who are defending this country and give their lives for us.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA), a distinguished member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I have a young sailor, a bosun's mate, Richard Ying, that was hurt severely aboard the U.S.S. *Cole*. My staff has talked to him several times. I tried to call and he was in rehabilitation. He is back home, and they expect him to be back in Windber, Pennsylvania, by Friday.

The gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and I had anticipated trying to go to visit the U.S.S. *Cole* over the weekend just to see how it was going. All of us sympathize with the families who lost loved ones, and all of us feel badly about the ones that were wounded.

But there is something else here that shows how good our troops are operating. It was marvelous. I went aboard the U.S.S. *Roberts* when it hit a mine. It had a hole about the size of a bus in the side. This hole was even bigger, 40 feet. People do not realize how close it came to sinking. We are talking about a ship that was in the harbor in water that was calm, and it almost sank. If it had not been for the heroic effort of this crew, actually using buckets to bail out the water, we would have probably lost that ship.

So I want to commend the men and women that served on the *Cole* for the phenomenal job they did in saving this ship. All of us hate to see our men and women in harm's way. We have responsibilities and we cannot withdraw from those responsibilities. But one thing for sure, that ship was saved by the dedication of the men and women who served aboard the *Cole*.

I add my commiseration and sympathy to the families, but I want to commend the captain and the shipmates aboard the U.S.S. *Cole* for the phenomenal job they did in saving that magnificent vessel.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. FROST).

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, as we all know by now, 17 sailors were either killed or are missing from the attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*. Information Systems Technician Seaman Timothy Gauna, a constituent of mine from Rice, Texas, is among the missing. Like all the sailors aboard the U.S.S. *Cole*, he was serving his country bravely and honorably when this vicious attack took place.

I join the Gauna family, and all the families of the missing sailors, in hoping that they will soon be accounted for.

Immediately after the attack, Mr. Speaker, I had the chance to visit personally with seaman Gauna's family. I spoke with a mother who is proud of her son's courage and patriotism. I talked to various family members who admire Tim's dedication to America.

I do not know all the sailors on the U.S.S. *Cole*, Mr. Speaker, but I know the family of Seaman Gauna. They, like all of the U.S.S. *Cole*'s sailors and their families, have America's gratitude and our prayers.

I was moved by the memorial service today in Norfolk that a number of us attended. There the entire Nation joined injured sailors, some fresh from the hospital, their IVs still attached to

their arms, in paying tribute to their fallen and missing comrades.

But our obligation to these brave men and women is greater than that, Mr. Speaker. We must continue to be vigilant in the face of threats from terrorists around the world. We must find the criminals responsible for this cowardly act, and they must be brought to justice. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, these terrorists will soon learn that America responds quickly and forcefully whenever we are attacked.

The FBI has now more than 60 agents in place investigating this attack, and the Navy has assigned six U.S. warships to Aden harbor to assist the U.S.S. *Cole* and its exhausted crew.

Mr. Speaker, every time anyone in uniform gets into a ship, a plane, or a tank, they risk their lives in defense of America. For that, we owe these great men and women of the United States Armed Forces our most profound gratitude. They have it, Mr. Speaker, as well as the solemn promise that America stands with them always and everywhere.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished ranking member and the chairman of the committee for this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, this morning I joined my colleagues to memorialize our fallen and missing sailors of the U.S.S. *Cole*. What I am most reminded of, as I saw the humanity and love and respect permeating and moving throughout that huge and enormously sad audience, was the greatness of America.

The Chaplain who offered the invocation reminded us that freedom is not free. This morning was a moment personally of profound grief, for my State of Texas suffered great losses. But the country suffered a loss, because these were bright and young and energetic and aspiring young people, none over the age of 26.

So I join in the support of this resolution, and I join this Nation in expressing sadness, loss, and resolve. I celebrate the lives of these young people, some found, some still missing.

It is impossible to capture the pain of the family members, mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers, aunts, uncles, cousins, sisters and brothers who bear this great loss. But I do believe we can speak today for this Nation that gathers around and embraces each other in time of trouble.

We must salute the Navy, along with the entire military. These young sailors who dedicated their lives to the Navy, and like gladiators of old, took pride in their service to country, and wore their patriotism as a shield so the world could sleep under a blanket of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to say to those who have done this dastardly act that we have no fear, and

that those who would do this evil act, that we will find them and they will pay the appropriate price. We must be safe, but the only way that we are safe is with these strong men and women who have offered themselves to protect our freedom.

There is a poem, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer, "Genuine Grace in Command":

"Define me a legend,
A soldier of infinite truth;
Define for me a soldier of valor, successful or obtuse,
Enlighten me of nobility,
A birthright of kings and queens.
Fill all the pages of history books with stories forever sung.
I swear I can hear them saying:
It is simple, the reason we fight:
Freedom, liberty, integrity,
These were given as our birthright."

As I close, Mr. Speaker, in my salute to these fallen and missing heroes and to their families, let me simply repeat Psalm 23.4:

"Even as I go through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me."

We in this Nation, we as a Congress, we as family members, we fear no evil, for Thou art with us.

Mr. Speaker, this morning I traveled to Norfolk, Virginia where I took part in a memorial service with President Clinton, Defense Secretary Cohen, Attorney General Reno, Secretary Danzi, Members of Congress from both the House and the Senate, members from all the military branches, the sailors and family from the U.S.S. *Cole*, the Norfolk Naval community, to honor our fallen sailors who dedicate their lives to ensuring our freedom here in the United States.

This morning was a moment of profound grief for me as I joined the country in expressing sadness, loss and resolve; and the celebration of the lives of our fallen sons and daughters through love and prayers. It is impossible for me to describe the pain that the family members and the country bears over this great loss. But I can speak of the love that this Nation has for those who dedicated their lives to the Navy, and like the gladiators of old, took pride in their service to country, and wore their patriotism as a shield so the world could sleep under a blanket of freedom.

As I think of our brave fallen soldiers, I am reminded of a poem entitled Genuine Grace in Command:

Define for me a legend, a soldier of infinite truth, define for me a soldier of valor, successful or obtuse? Enlighten me of nobility, a birthright of kings and queens? Fill all the pages of history books, with stories forever sung!

But while you regale nameless faces of glory, times over and over again! I beg you remember the individuals, who's honors I now proudly present!

I speak here of soldiers with humility, yet clearly a leaders. Quietly commanding, entirely through their presence within. Their desires were not for greatness, simply the survival of team! Their goal not for fame or fortune, but to share their gift till the end!

Many times we are left with a memory, which overshadows us all! Many times

we are left and dishearten, wondering why we fought for the cause?

And yet here were soldiers who never questioned, the mission life had set them on! Perhaps the greatest gift they gave us was the understanding of truth!

I swear I can hear them saying, it's simple the reason we fight. Freedom, liberty, integrity, these were given as our birthright.

We must fight to preserve what was given us, even fight unmercifully to the end!

We shall provide their tomorrow even their better life! Let it not dishearten you, the lack which they seem to know. There will come a day when we are remembered for what we had to show!

To the sailors of the U.S.S. *Cole* who sacrificed their lives for us, you will be remembered for the sacrifice you showed the world.

I pay tribute to our missing and lost U.S. Sailors:

Electronics Technician Chief Petty Officer Richard Costelow, of Morrisville, Pennsylvania.

Hull Maintenance Technician Third Class Kenneth Clodfelter, of Mechanicsville, Virginia.

Mess Management Specialist Seaman Lakeina Francis, of Woodleaf, North Carolina.

Information Systems Technician Seaman Timothy Gauna, from Rice, Texas.

Signalman Seaman Apprentice Cherone Gunn, of Rex, Georgia.

Seaman James McDaniels, of Norfolk, Virginia.

Engineman Second Class Mac Nieto, of Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin.

Electronics Warfare Technician Third Class Ronald Owens of Vero Beach Florida.

Engineman Fireman Joshua Parlett, of Churchville, Maryland.

Seaman Apprentice Lakiba Nicole Palmer of San Diego, California.

Fireman Apprentice Patrick Roy of Cornwall on Hudson, New York.

Electronics Warfare Technician Second Class Kevin Rux, of Portland, North Dakota.

Mess Management Specialist Third Class Ronchester Santiago, of Kingsville, Texas.

Operations Specialist Second Class Timothy Saunders, of Ringold, Virginia.

Fireman Gary Swenchonis, Jr., of Rockport, Texas.

Ensign Andrew Triplett, of Mason, Mississippi.

Seaman Apprentice Craig Wibberley, of Williamsport, Maryland.

They were the best America had to offer, for they took upon themselves an oath taken by men and women from the beginning of time, and that is the oath of service to country.

For those of you who have caused this misery, I assure you, this country will not rest until you are found and brought to justice. The United States will not shy away from its commitment for ensuring peace, freedom and stability in the Middle East and around the world.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from South Carolina (Chairman SPENCE) and the ranking member,

the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), for introducing this important resolution at this time.

I am pleased to join in supporting this timely bipartisan resolution condemning the terrorist attack on the U.S.S. *Cole* and honoring its courageous crew and those who lost their lives or were injured, and recognizing the heroic efforts that were made to save this ship despite massive damage to its hull.

The terrorist attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*, which was docked in Yemen for refueling, reminds us all that despite our best efforts, it is not always possible to harden every U.S. target abroad.

It also highlights the need for increased intelligence capacity in these dangerous parts of the world.

Our U.S. embassy in Yemen is a highly secure facility with substantial set backs, making it hard to hit with terrorist bombs. The search for softer targets is how the determined new terrorists now operate as we harden more and more traditional U.S. diplomatic targets abroad.

Greater intelligence efforts are essential as these ruthless terrorists search for our soft underbelly. In this day of local criminal elements supporting terrorist networks through collaboration in the drug trade, and in supplying stolen vehicles, explosives, and safe houses, we often overlook one key source of better intelligence on terrorists; that is, the police in the tough regions such as the Middle East.

We need better and closer cooperation on the police front, both in fighting the crime and terrorism from abroad targeting our Nation, and we need their help.

Under Director Louis Freeh, the FBI has been trying to help some moderate and friendly Arab nations get an international law enforcement style type regional police training at the police academy, the ILEA, off the ground in the Middle East. These police schools help create the vital cop-to-cop relations and links on the ground that result in greater crime-fighting information and information-sharing with our U.S. law enforcement entities, and especially among the various regional police agencies.

Washington bureaucratic inertia stalled these FBI efforts in the Middle East until our House Committee on International Relations recently urged action on that initiative. Movement is now underway for a Middle East regional police training school, costing the taxpayer no monies to satisfy State Department bureaucratic concerns.

Another lesson from the U.S.S. *Cole* attack is the need for prompt and aggressive law enforcement response to preserve evidence, to interview witnesses, to pursue leads before the terrorists and their followers flee to safe

havens. We must make certain that those responsible are brought to justice.

I am proud that our committee played a key role in giving the FBI new commercial leasing authority for transport planes for a quick response to these kinds of attacks.

□ 1745

I commend our FBI, our diplomatic security and other agencies for their quick action to help secure facilities in Aden and the efforts to apprehend those responsible for this heinous crime.

I want to again commend the authors of this resolution in bringing this issue to the floor today as our Nation honors the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole*. With all of us working together, I am certain we can bring those responsible to justice for this attack and work to ensure that we minimize the likelihood of any other similar attack in the future.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY).

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I think that, in this hour, it perhaps does us good to put aside for a minute the geopolitical discussions advanced by the gentleman from New York (Chairman GILMAN), my friend speaking before me, and concentrate instead on the loss that we have suffered, memorialize and honor the service of the men and women of the U.S.S. *Cole*, and grieve with them the loss of their classmates.

When the terrible news about this terrorist attack flashed across the television sets of this country, we had a sick feeling across the entire country about this senseless loss of life in a pathetic, cowardly terrorist act.

This feeling of sadness became much deeper when we learned that one of the dead was one of our own, Kevin Shawn Rux from Portland, North Dakota. Kevin was 30 years old. He was an electronic warfare technician, second class. He was the son of a Navy man, the nephew of another Navy man, and he was in his 11th year of service to our country in the United States Navy.

Earlier, in the week, Kevin had called his wife Olivia in Norfolk, Virginia to extend his love on their 10th anniversary. He was halfway across the world, serving his country. On his anniversary, perhaps his last visit with Olivia, he extended his love in this fashion.

We cannot really fully appreciate, until a tragedy drives us to really think about it, the measure of commitment and sacrifice that the men and women in our military make. I mean they are some of our finest. They are in really up-close personal ways some of our very finest.

Some of those who went to high school with Mr. Rux were quoted as

saying, "He was a friendly, good student, wrestler, not a trouble maker, had his head screwed on straight." His former wrestling coach was quoted as saying, "Kevin was a tough little cookie. He was all business. He was consistent. He was always there. He knew his role."

Well, those observations of a high school wrestling coach were very true of his service to our country in the Navy as well. He had his head screwed on straight. He was always there. He was a tough little cookie.

What a tragedy for his wife and his family. What a tragedy for us in North Dakota. What a tragedy for our country to have lost sailors the caliber of Mr. Rux.

So I ask that we in this time think and pray for the departed and their families. They have served their country very well.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GREENWOOD).

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to both celebrate and mourn the loss of life of those who carried our freedom and beliefs across the seas aboard the U.S.S. *Cole*.

One of the 17 who died was 35-year-old Richard Costelow who grew up in my county of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Richard attended Morrisville High School, and he graduated in 1983. As one of his teachers remembered him, Richard "gave 100 percent every day. That kind of kid doesn't come along too often."

Richard joined the Navy in 1988 and worked his way up to the ranks to electronic technician, first class. As the President mentioned at this morning's memorial service, he spent 5 years in the White House Communications Office and received the prestigious National Defense Service Medal.

My heart goes out to the Costelow family, his wife Sharla, and their three boys as well as to his parents and extended family.

Today we mourn this tragic loss, but we will never forget those who served to protect the ideals we as a Nation hold dear.

Mr. Speaker, it is particularly grotesque that these young men and women killed and injured in this event were in service of the greatest beacon of freedom ever in the history of the world, and that so often those who commit these acts of terrorism are individuals who themselves are victimized by brutal leaders who, while keeping their boot on the faces of the people of their countries, use the United States as a scapegoat for the frustration and the agony that their own people feel.

Someday we will conquer this ignorance, and someday all of the peoples

of the world will be free. Until that day comes, we will rely on the Richard Costelows of the world to protect us from those who live in ignorance.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Ms. SANCHEZ).

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), the ranking member of the House Committee on Armed Services for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 631 in honor of the crew members killed and wounded on the U.S.S. *Cole*.

As a member of the House Committee on Armed Services, I am continually impressed by the dedication to duty of those serving in the armed services. These young men and women volunteer. They volunteer, and they put their lives on the line to defend the freedoms that many of us take for granted.

Last week, this Nation was reminded of their sacrifice. Seventeen people died, and 39 were injured serving aboard the U.S.S. *Cole* when a cowardly act of terrorism changed their lives forever and the lives of their families.

This incident opens up old wounds such as the 1983 bombing of the Marine barracks in Lebanon that killed 241 and the 1996 bombing of the Khobar Towers that killed 19.

Our Nation is blessed with many virtues. Unfortunately, these incidents affirm that none are as precious as the men and women who risk their lives in the service of this country.

It has been said "For those who manned the battle line the bugle whispers low, and freedom has a taste and price the protected never know."

Our hearts go out to the families of the brave men and women we honor today. They are now part of the soul of our great Nation.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, well, again, thanks to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), ranking member.

Seventeen young crew members in the U.S. Navy were serving their country. In an instant, their lives were taken as a result of this terrorist attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*. Of those killed, most were young. Most came from our typical American hometown. They all left families and friends to mourn them. My thoughts and prayers go out to those families and friends. We, as a country, grieve with them.

I feel, I think, some of this grief as I remember that day in 1957 when we received word that my brother's plane had gone down, and he was killed. The family is never quite the same.

A senseless tragedy like this attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*, I think, allows us to

reflect on all those military service members and their families who sacrifice so much while serving this great country.

Our brave men and women in all the branches of the armed services stand ready to defend America, not only within our borders, but throughout unpredictable international waters and lands.

Let us continually stand behind them and support them and humbly recognize their sacrifices. I think too often we take their services for granted. We would not be enjoying the freedoms we have now without the sacrifices of so many during our great country's history.

I hope we will often remember how important America's military is to ensure the freedoms and liberties we have in this country.

Again, my very sincere condolences go out to the family and the loved ones of those service men and women who had their life taken. May God help them through this difficult time.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. GEJDENSON).

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, we all send our deep-felt thoughts to the families of those who are lost and injured. Any of us who have military facilities in our districts know that the daily sacrifice that the men and women in uniform give to this Nation is something that keeps us free and frankly keeps the world free. Without American service personnel, this world would not be a world filled with burgeoning democracies.

But for those families whose tragic loss by these cowardly terrorists, every Member in this Chamber, everyone in the administration will take every effort to make sure that they are caught and punished.

America is the leading force in the world for freedom, and often we are the leading target of the mad men of this world. They will not succeed. We will join together with other freedom-loving Nations, and we will end terrorism. We will win this fight, and we will do this united with many of our friends across the globe.

All of my constituents and all my colleagues again send our prayers to the families and our gratitude to all the men and women in uniform.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLILEY). The Chair announces that the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) has 7½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) has 3 minutes remaining.

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) has the right to close.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Research and

Development of our Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman for yielding me time. I thank both the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON), our distinguished ranking member, for this particular legislation.

I rise with a deep sense of sorrow shared by all of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle in remembering those brave Americans who paid the ultimate price for the freedom and democracy that we enjoy.

It is appropriate, Mr. Speaker, that, during this time of reflection on the lives of these individuals, these young sons and daughters and mothers and fathers, these young relatives of so many families in America that have been taken away from us, that we reflect on the value of our military and the role they perform every day of the year.

Mr. Speaker, we lost 17 brave Americans. We lost dads who left kids. We lost daughters who left behind moms and dads. We lost people who were involved in their community and charity events and church organizations. We lost future leaders of America. Perhaps even among them was a Member of Congress. I heard the President say today that one of the individuals actually had worked at the White House, helping with the computer system.

These were not just sailors. These were individuals who were destined to become a part of the American fabric, who were going to eventually assume their leadership role in both the military and also in civilian life. Tragically, they were cut down.

□ 1800

I would ask our colleagues to remember the individuals that are being honored here tonight and the entire crew of the ship, and that we think about the implications of having a Navy where one-third of our ships are right now deployed, and over one-half of those ships underway steaming across the seas to distant lands to protect America. We have military personnel in dozens of cities and countries around the world today performing important functions of keeping peace, allowing us to have that forward presence and making sure that the world is stable.

Sometimes I think we take that for granted as a nation, and it takes this kind of incident to remind us that these are human beings; that we have the responsibility to give them the proper benefits, the responsibility to give them the proper equipment, and the proper training.

I agree with what the President has been saying and what Governor Bush has been saying and Vice President Gore. We do have the best military in the world, and it is the best-trained military in the world. But I can tell my

colleagues that I am concerned. We cannot cut our Navy back from 585 to 317 and keep the level of deployments up. We cannot continue to have 35 deployments in 9 years all over the world and not expect additional pressures like what we have seen.

Mr. Speaker, there needs to be a full investigation of this incident, and there needs to be a full accounting for those who perpetrated the act and the reasons why this act occurred.

But today we remember those brave souls, those brave heroes, and I join with my colleagues in extending our warmest and deepest sympathy to the families and loved ones of these brave sailors. I ask all of us in America to reflect on the importance of our military and make a renewed commitment in honor of those brave 17 Americans and the entire crew of the *Cole* that we will continue to provide the full support of all Americans in providing the funding for an adequate military, for the proper quality of life, for proper health care, and for all those other commitments that America needs to make to its uniformed personnel.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. UNDERWOOD).

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding me this time, and I rise in strong support for this resolution introduced by the chairman of the House Committee on Armed Services and the ranking member.

At a tragic time like this, it is important to remember that freedom is not defended by ships or airplanes or tanks, freedom is defended by people; people from all walks of life and people from all around the country; people who are capable of doing individual things and making their contribution to the Nation. These sailors who were victims of a very cruel and vicious act are amongst freedom's best, are amongst America's best.

Terrorist acts are supposed to inspire terror. I think that this resolution, I think the comments of many of the Members today, I think the sentiments of the American public, I think the moving memorial service earlier today indicates that America is anything but terrorized by this act. Instead, we are galvanized to do the best that we can by our men and women in uniform, to continue the policy of trying to extend freedom around the world and to protect it wherever it is threatened.

So today at this time I think we want to extend our deepest and sincerest condolences to the families and again to pay tribute to these fine young Americans.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. PICKETT), a member of the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Today, in Norfolk, Virginia, we were touched as a Navy family, community, and Nation as we mourned the brave American sailors who paid the ultimate sacrifice on board the U.S.S. *Cole* in the name of liberty and freedom. These men and women, our fathers and sons, brothers and sisters, mothers and daughters, were violently attacked as they stood watch for their country. Instantly, the promise and hope of 17 voices were forever quieted by an act of hate. Even now, the captain, officers, and crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* are working around the clock to save their ship. Let there be no mistake, the United States condemns those responsible for these acts and will relentlessly pursue the attackers until their identity is known and justice is served.

Sometimes, Mr. Speaker, in times of peace and prosperity, which we largely enjoy today, it is easy to forget the perils our men and women in uniform face each day. Our sailors, soldiers, airmen, and Marines put their lives on the line not just when they are deployed in harm's way in the world's volatile areas like those aboard the *Cole*, but also each day as they train to get ready for such missions. These brave Americans heard the call of duty to serve their country, and like all men and women in the service, the U.S.S. *Cole* answered that call to travel to far-off lands to keep the peace and carry American ideals to places where they are so desperately needed. Their bravery is exemplary of the American spirit and one reason the United States serves as a beacon of hope and freedom to others around the world.

To these servicemen and women courageously serving their country, we say thank you. We will find these attackers and they will be brought to justice.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER), who is a member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend on the Committee on Armed Services for yielding me this time.

I know my entire State and my district back home in Indiana send their thoughts and prayers not only to the 17 families but all our families that are present overseas today and tomorrow doing the great job they do to protect this great Nation.

As a member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a few days ago I received a briefing out at Langley, and I know that the intelligence community is working tirelessly, day in and day out, to follow every lead to gather all the evidence and the facts so that we can find out who did this and make sure when we find out that there is swift justice. We

will find the culprits and the cowards that inflicted this on our people, and justice hopefully will be done soon.

Our prayers go to our service personnel and to our intelligence and military community to help us address this very serious situation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The time of the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) has expired. The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SPENCE) has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds of that time to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS), a member of our committee.

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and let me extend my profound and personal sense of grief and appreciation to the families of those brave Americans who served on the *Cole*.

Let me say this. I know these words will be of little comfort to those who have suffered such a great loss, but to those who question the character of the young people in America today, I would say that we have a resounding answer. We had young people who were willing to enlist voluntarily in the service of their country and give their lives. They have done so with great honor. We are very proud of them, and their families should know they have given their lives nobly and will not be forgotten.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, it was the Roman orator Cicero who once said that gratitude is the greatest of all virtues. This morning in a ceremony next to the U.S.S. *Eisenhower* at Norfolk, Virginia, commemorating the lives of those 17 sailors, feelings came to each of us; feelings of sympathy for the families of those injured and those deceased, admiration for the sailors who carried on and saved their ship and did so well by doing their duty, and anger, anger at those who perpetrated this deed. And yet that anger will fade into determination to cause America to seek justice.

I will repeat the words of Admiral Robert Natter, as he spoke during the ceremony: "All Americans should remember. Remember the *Cole*."

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we are gathered here on this very solemn occasion to honor these people who have paid the price for our freedom. How can we honor them? What can we say? What can we do?

I think one thing we can do as a Nation is to assure those families of these young men and women, and the ones who were injured and all the other members of our armed forces today

who are paying the price every day in all kinds of ways all over this world. The price for what? Freedom.

We have heard many of us use the word freedom many times today. And some might wonder, what does that have to do with it? That is what it is all about. These young men and women not only today but in the past who served our country have not only given us our freedom but defended it every day all over this world at great sacrifice. Why is that freedom so important? Without it, where would we be?

Some wonder about some of us who are so strong for national defense, that is why. Freedom is so important. Without freedom, we would not have the environment necessary to consider all the other problems we have in this country to deal with. First, we must have our freedom. In a free society we can then go about dealing with the rest of our problems. But I never, never, never get away from the fact that we, every day, take for granted what other people before us over the years have done in giving us and defending our freedom for us today who have not paid that price.

As I said earlier, I think every day we should honor people, not just one day every so often when these kinds of things happen. We should every day pay honor to those who have given us our very freedom.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, events are sometimes so horrible that words alone do not fully describe the pain and sorrow that is in all of our hearts. The tragedy aboard the U.S.S. *Cole* was just such an event. This act of cowardice and malice against 17 Americans who were simply doing their duty is beyond all reason.

These brave soldiers died in the line of duty, and the resolution before us honors those who so valiantly gave their lives in the service of their country.

It is a simple gesture, but it is so necessary.

Our fallen sailors are the true heroes of our society.

They worked day after day and week after week to protect our nation from harm. They spent their time promoting peace in the world. They were symbols of American values—democracy, diversity, human tolerance and understanding, opportunity and freedom.

Today, America is stronger because of your brave service overseas—and the world is a better place because of your sacrifice.

We say as a country that we will not let heinous acts of terrorism deter us from our mission of peace in the Middle East and around the world. We will not rest until the people responsible for this crime are brought to justice. And we will not shrink from our duties in the world—we will continue to maintain our presence and promote freedom, democracy, and better relations among all people.

I want to extend my deepest sympathies to the victims' families. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. You, too, have made the ultimate sacrifice, and we as a country are forever in your debt. Our hearts and gratitude also go out to the injured and their families who have also suffered from this attack.

I salute the brave souls who fought to reclaim their ship—to save their vessel under the most difficult, wrenching circumstances. They are a tribute to our armed forces and they embody the best values in our society.

Finally, I want to say, humbly, that America will never forget our fallen heroes. We will always honor the sacrifice you have made so that others might live in peace.

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 631, honoring our servicemen and women who were victims of the terrorist attack on the destroyer U.S.S. *Cole*.

I was saddened and outraged by the cowardly attack carried out against the U.S.S. *Cole* on October 12 off the Yemeni Coast. First and foremost, my thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of those who laid down their lives serving their country and representing the highest traditions of the United States Navy.

As I sat and watched the television that dark Thursday morning, I could not help but feel for the loved ones of the fallen. I hope that time and reflection and God's healing hand can put their pain at ease.

The 17 sailors who perished and the over three dozen wounded were carrying out a mission of vital national interest to America. They were part of a carrier battle group that projects our forward maritime presence by taking station in the Persian Gulf region. These brave Americans knew they were going into a volatile region. They were made ever more aware of their situation as fighting broke out between the Israeli government and Palestinians. However, members of our armed forces are regularly called upon to carry out their assignments that place them in harms way. Still, when even one American dies in the line of duty, it is a time for reflection and sorrow.

The heroic damage control efforts of the U.S.S. *Cole*'s crew after the explosion saved not only the ship, but lives. After the blast that ripped a 40 by 45 foot hole in the port side of the ship and exploded windows on land, the crew was able to maintain composure and stop the flooding. I can only image what it must have taken for a sailor aboard to see the havoc but still have the courage and presence of mind to do their duty by sealing off the bulkheads and evacuating the injured.

The terrorists that carried out this cowardly mission perished in the blast, but there are numerous responsible parties that financed, trained, and planned the attack. Our government must locate these perpetrators and bring them to justice no matter where they are in the world as soon as possible.

America must always be vigilant for those who wish to do harm to our troops and citizens. We must never let those who harm U.S. citizens go unpunished. However, America will not be deterred by this act from carrying out missions that are vital to our national interests in the region.

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in honoring the entire crew of the U.S.S. *Cole*, and in offering my heartfelt condolences to the families of those sailors who gave their lives in service to their country.

As often as I can, I offer my sincere appreciation and admiration to the men and women who proudly serve in uniform on behalf of the

United States of America. The efforts of these fine Americans, both in peacetime and in war, not only have allowed this nation to achieve its stature as the greatest institution of democracy and liberty the world has ever known, but have ensured the high level of security and prosperity we now know.

However, on this day we must sadly confront the harsh reality that national security is not without risk. Today we are reminded that our soldiers, sailors and airmen are, in fact, our front line of defense in an unpredictable and sometimes dangerous world. We realize, as is carved in granite at the National Korean War Memorial, "peace is not free." Sometimes the cost of peace comes at a very high price.

The sailors of the U.S.S. *Cole*, those cruelly snatched from this Earth, those injured in the blast, and those still on board who bravely worked to assist their mates and who continue to struggle to maintain their ship, represent the noblest principles of our nation and of our history.

Almost 140 years ago, when consecrating the graves of Americans who gave their lives in the fields of Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln said: "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but we must never forget what they did here." Few words ring as true through the ages, or as appropriate on this solemn day.

Today, my colleagues and I grieve and pray with the families who lost loved ones on board the *Cole*, and with the sailors recovering from injuries sustained in the vicious attack. Our nation's resolve to find those responsible for this tragedy is strong, and our will to ensure justice is unbending. All Americans, across this nation and at all points of the globe, must never forget the ultimate sacrifice of these men and women and of their families. But, I submit, each of us must also strive to better remember and honor the acts of bravery and sacrifice our men and women in uniform commit each and every day.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the brave young men from Texas who died in last week's attack against the U.S.S. *Cole*—Ronchester M. Santiago of Kingsville, Timothy L. Gauna of Rice, and Gary G. Swenchonis, Jr. of Rockport.

These young men, none older than 26, were pillars of their communities who joined the U.S. Navy to serve their country and protect our national security. Specialist Third Class Santiago, a cook aboard the *Cole*, was remembered as an excellent student and well-respected by his peers.

Seaman Gauna, an information systems technician, was a standout on his high school basketball and baseball teams. He also served as a bilingual teacher's aide at a local elementary school after graduation, before joining the Navy.

Fireman Swenchonis, who had not joined the Navy until January 1999, was remembered as a good student, always willing to volunteer or lend a helping hand.

They are just three of the 17 sailors killed or presumed dead in this despicable act of terrorism. Our sympathies are with the families of those sailors, along with the families of the injured, including Kesha Stidham of Austin, who lies in critical condition.

As the Navy continues to recover its dead, the FBI, along with military and Yemeni au-

thorities, are working around the clock to find those who are responsible. I congratulate them on their quick work so far and hope that additional leads and arrests will be forthcoming.

Let those who conceived this brutal act, however, heed our words. America will not stand idly by as her young men and women are slaughtered by cowardly men in cowardly acts. You will be found, you will be brought to justice, and you will be punished.

Mr. Speaker, our resolve will not be affected by this attack. The United States will continue to work for peace and stability to the Middle East, and we will continue to oppose those who seek to deal in the currency of violence and terror.

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Petty Officer First Class Douglas Hancock, a brave young sailor from Enterprise who was injured in the disgusting and cowardly act of terrorism that was the attack on the guided missile destroyer U.S.S. *Cole* (DDG-67).

In the early hours of October 12, 2000, a worried Grady White called my office asking for my assistance in determining whether his grandson was injured or killed in the attack. Due to some confusion over who was listed on Douglas' notification list, the Hancock family was worried they might not be contacted. The Navy did an admirable job keeping all the families of the crew members of the U.S.S. *Cole* informed under the circumstances. However, when CNN ran footage of injured sailors being carried into the hospital, Mrs. Becky Hancock, Douglas' mother, was both relieved and worried when she recognized Douglas' face as one of the injured sailors.

Douglas Hancock suffered a broken jaw and cuts from the explosion. He was one of the 37 injured. He was not among the seven confirmed dead or the ten missing and presumed dead. He is going home to his close-knit family and friends.

I salute Petty Officer Douglas Hancock and the rest of the U.S.S. *Cole*'s crew for their bravery and service to our nation.

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that we honor the brave young men and women who lost their lives in last week's shocking attack on the U.S.S. *Cole* in the Port of Aden, Yemen. This terrorist attack provides us with another painful reminder that the United States military must always remain vigilant in a world often hostile to our country's interests.

Our military is constantly threatened by enemies of peace throughout the world. From peace-keeping operations in the Balkans, to preventing communist aggression on the Korean Peninsula, to keeping a cautioned eye on the increasing turmoil in the Middle East—our military is spread disturbingly thin. In order to deter our enemies and protect the lives of our courageous servicemen and women, Congress must continue to make every effort to strengthen our armed forces' ability to stop these types of attacks from happening in the first place.

This tragedy also reminds us that though we are living in an era of relative peace and prosperity, we must never take it for granted. America would not be free today without the sacrifices of the brave individuals who choose

to serve our country for many reasons, but who all share the risk and sacrifice this service brings. The men and women of our armed forces exemplify personal courage by facing fear, danger and adversity every day. And they carry out their duties with honor, integrity, and respect.

Our hearts, and our prayers, go out to the families of the young men and women killed in Yemen, and to all American military men and women serving our nation all over the world. Their sacrifice and their spirit call upon each generation of Americans to recognize and appreciate those who pay the ultimate price for our nation's freedom. We will always remember and honor their sacrifice.

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, almost a week ago, people all over the world awoke to the news of a terrorist strike against one of our naval ships. Like countless other Americans, I was stunned by the early reports. Over the next several hours and days, the gravity of the situation became clearer. The Navy has reported that seventeen sailors were killed by this blast and another 33 were injured. Today, I join many with my colleagues in rising to honor these men and women who gave their lives to protect our nation and all she stands for.

Today, the families of those lost honored them at a memorial service in Norfolk, Virginia, the *Cole's* home port. Throughout the ceremony we were reminded of the sacrifice by not only those in uniform, but their families as well. Unfortunately this sacrifice is often forgotten, but it is never unappreciated. It is truly an extraordinary person who is willing to commit to this type of service and dedicate his/her life to something larger than him/herself. It is an individual's commitment to the service of this country that we are reminded of as we mourn those who gave their lives. My own district also suffered the loss of a loved one in this attack. Patrick Roy, a onetime resident of Cornwall on Hudson, New York was a Fireman Apprentice on the U.S.S. *Cole*, and I offer my deepest sympathies to his friends and family.

I want to applaud the efforts of the remainder of the *Cole's* personnel who did their job, manned their stations and saved their ship even while they knew that they had suffered the possible terrible loss of shipmates and members of their naval family.

The United States military has served as liberator and protector and has provided a source of hope for millions around the world in times of peace and in war. While it may be of little solace to those who have lost a loved one, the men and women of the *Cole* who gave their lives in an effort to serve as a protector will remain beacons of hope and will be remembered as heroes. My deepest condolences go out to all of the friends and families who have lost a loved one in this cowardly attack.

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the valiant sailors of the U.S.S. *Cole* and to express my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones who suffered losses due to an act of terrorism.

On October 12, 2000, the Navy family suffered a tremendous loss, when the U.S.S. *Cole* fell victim to terrorism while attempting to refuel at the Port of Aden in Yemen. My heart

continues to go out to the families and friends of the American sailors who were killed, injured or are still missing. I commend our valiant sailors who responded quickly to this tragedy, minimizing casualties and damage to their ship.

It was an honor to assist three families from my District as they waited to hear news on their loved ones. Fortunately, the families and friends of Petty Officer Kevin Benoit of Cairo, NY, Ensign & Deck Division Commander Gregory McDearmon of Ballston Lake, NY, and Chief Petty Officer Charles Sweet of Broadalbin, NY, after hours of waiting, received word that their loved ones were safe.

It is important that we always remember that these brave men and women are serving our Nation and we should pay tribute to them. These sailors have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country. This is a loss felt by the entire nation.

This tragedy highlights the constant dangers faced by our armed forces around the world. Our country must remain vigilant in protecting them from future terrorist or other attacks. Our government must work diligently to protect and provide aid to those who are injured and work with the families who are going through a period of grieving.

Again, Mr. Speaker, our prayers go out to the sailors, their families and friends.

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday a terrible and cowardly act of terrorism was made against America and our armed forces. The U.S.S. *Cole*, which had entered the Yemeni port of Aden, was blindsided by a small boat in a group helping to moor the ship for refueling. The boat was loaded with explosives and blew up alongside the U.S.S. *Cole*.

Mr. Speaker, 17 sailors were either killed or are missing from the blast, and 39 were injured.

Information Systems Technician Seaman Timothy Gauna, a constituent of mine from Rice, Texas, is among the missing. Like all the sailors aboard the U.S.S. *Cole*, he was serving his country bravely and honorably when this vicious attack took place. I join the Gauna family, and all the families of the missing sailors, in hoping that they will soon be accounted for.

Immediately after the attack Mr. Speaker, I flew down to North Texas to visit Seaman Gauna's family. There, I spoke with a mother who is proud of her son's courage and patriotism. And I talked to various family members who admire Tim's dedication to America.

I do not know all the sailors on the U.S.S. *Cole*, Mr. Speaker, but I know the family of Seaman Gauna. They—like all of the U.S.S. *Cole's* sailors and their families—have America's gratitude, and our prayers.

That's why I was so moved by the memorial service today in Norfolk, Virginia. There, the entire nation joined injured sailors—some fresh from the hospital, their IV's still attached to their arms—in paying tribute to their fallen and missing comrades.

But our obligation to these brave men and women is greater than that, Mr. Speaker. We must continue to be vigilant in the face of threats from terrorists around the world. We must find the criminals responsible for this cowardly atrocity, and they must be brought to justice.

Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, these terrorists will soon learn that America responds quickly and forcefully whenever we are attacked. The FBI now has more than 60 agents in place investigating this attack and the Navy has assigned six U.S. warships to Aden harbor to assist the U.S.S. *Cole* and its exhausted crew.

Mr. Speaker, every time anyone in uniform gets into a ship, a plane, or a tank, they risk their lives in defense of America. For that, we owe the great men and women of the United States Armed Forces our most profound gratitude. They have it, Mr. Speaker, as well as the solemn promise that America stands with them—always and everywhere.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, when we are confronted by the despicable, cowardly attack on the U.S.S. *Cole* during a simple refueling stop in a troubled port, our first reaction is anger and a desire to punish those who are responsible.

But today I believe we should put those thoughts aside and consider instead on the sacrifice made by those members of the *Cole's* crew, and reflect on how our country—and the entire world—depends on such sacrifices by all our men and women in uniform around the globe.

These crew members put themselves at risk to bring peace to a region that could self-destruct at any time if our warships were not present. The U.S.S. *Cole* was in Yemen, a nation with a history of antagonism to the United States, to help establish a new relationship of trust and friendship. They put their lives on the line not only to keep the peace, but spread its benefits.

The force of the explosion gouged a 40-foot-by-40 foot hole in the side of the *Cole*. If this attack had occurred to a ship of almost any other navy in the world, the ship would have sunk with many lives lost. But the *Cole's* crew showed the intense training, high skill level and sheer determination that we have come to expect of all of America's armed forces. Twice in three days they contained the damage, keeping the ship afloat and saving many of their injured colleagues.

Because of the unselfish dedication of Americans like those on the U.S.S. *Cole*, the United States is one of the few nations in history that can reduce military tensions anywhere simply with the presence of our warships. The hearts of peace-loving people around the world are lifted at the sight of a U.S. Navy ship steaming into port. And sadly, the angry dreams of those who would disrupt the peace focus on destroying those peacekeepers, as well.

The crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* knew that they could be in danger in an unsettled region, and would not be deterred from performing their duty as our front-line peacekeepers. We are aware that there are those who will go to any extreme, including trying to sink the *Cole*, in a desperate effort to undermine America's commitment to bring peace to this war-torn part of the world. When the attack came, the crew of the *Cole* would not allow their ship to sink.

Our nation is deeply saddened by the loss of the brave men and women who gave their lives so that peace may spread around the world. But we say to the enemies who would attack us in the hopes of spreading war: Look

carefully at the lesson of determination that is the U.S.S. *Cole*. We will not be deterred.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I join Chairman SPENCE and Ranking member SKELTON, and all Americans, in honoring the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* and expressing the nation's sympathies to the families of those killed or injured.

Like my colleagues, I was struck by the photographs of the 17 sailors killed or presumed dead that appeared in the newspapers in the days following the terrorist attack against the *Cole*. Even the eldest of them—aged 35—died all too young.

As has been stated elsewhere, the photos put faces to the phrase "in harm's way." Particularly young faces.

The phrase is also part and parcel to another: "doing one's duty."

We know from service members that the phrase "doing one's duty" is more than a combination of words. It is also reflective of a spirit, a commitment, a calling that attracts the very best of our youth to military service.

And it is not a phrase not taken lightly.

The crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* is but one of hundreds of units of men and women deployed around the world. Each knows the risk of such service. Each also knows of the contribution they make to our nation's defense and the defense of freedom around the world.

But, all too often, the contribution and sacrifice these men and women make is taken for granted. Too often, we have only assembled after a tragic incident like the bombing of the *Cole* to belatedly express our appreciation and thanks.

Let us resolve to thank the men and women of our Armed Forces everyday for their dedication, sacrifice, and courage. And let us remember 17 members of the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* for making the ultimate sacrifice.

To their families and friends, we assure you that their memory will not be forgotten. And the values for which they gave their lives will be forever cherished, honored and protected.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the sacrifice and the memory of the crew of America's guided missile destroyer U.S.S. *Cole* who were killed or wounded on October 12 as a suspected terrorist bomb ripped through the ship's hull. The State of Texas mourns the loss of three of its sons: Fireman Gary Graham Swenchonis, Jr. of Rockport, TX; Information Systems Technician Timothy Guana of Rice, TX; and Petty Officer 3rd Class Ronchester Santiago of Kingsville, TX. We Texans add our sadness and pride in our Nation to the family of Americans in saluting the honor and valor of all seventeen patriots and the remaining crew of the U.S.S. *Cole*.

The Nation especially grieves the loss of our first female sailors killed in hostile action aboard a U.S. combat ship. It is important to acknowledge that this historic sacrifice was made by two African American women. Lakeina Monique Francis of Woodleaf, North Carolina, a 19 year-old Mess Management Specialist Seaman, followed in her father's footsteps to serve her country in the Navy. Lakiba Nicole Palmer of San Diego, California was a 22 year-old Seaman Recruit. History will record their sacrifice as a milestone of great proportions. For today, there can be no

doubt that America's sons and America's daughters will lay down their lives for freedom and peace around the globe. I urge this Congress to resolve that as this story is written and retold, the names of these women must not be forgotten as has too often been the case for the legacy and sacrifice of African American women throughout our Nation's history.

I stand with my colleagues to offer sincere condolences to every loved one who survives each of the seventeen patriots we honor through this resolution. Their supreme sacrifice compels us to live for peace and redouble our efforts to broker a lasting Middle East peace with the strongest determination.

Mr. Speaker, on this occasion, I pray God's blessing on the memories of these sailors, God's comfort for their families, and may God bless an America that is more resolute that ever to preserve the peace!

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave American sailors aboard the U.S.S. *Cole* whose lives were taken off the coast of Yemen on October 12, 2000. I would like to express my deepest sympathies to the sailors' families during this difficult time.

We will never forget the sailors and the sacrifice they have made for our country. It is through their courageous service that all Americans are allowed to live in freedom.

I would also like to honor the other sailors aboard the U.S.S. *Cole*, both those injured and non-injured. This tragedy should be a reminder to all Americans that on a daily basis our men and women serving in the military are continually putting their lives on the line for our country in many parts of the world. Even in times of relative peace, the potential dangers faced by our service members never cease to exist.

This horrible incident is of particular concern to me because my District is home to Naval Air Station, Lemoore. Men and Women in my district proudly serve their country and bravely confront serious dangers. I know that the tragedy aboard the U.S.S. *Cole* evokes a painful reminder of these dangers to all military families. My thoughts are with the Navy families in my district who are mourning the loss of their fellow service men and women.

I am hopeful we will find those who were responsible for this cowardly act and hold them accountable. We owe it to the lost sailors and their families.

Today, as the families and friends of the victims come together in Norfolk, Virginia to honor their loved ones, I would like to offer my condolences and prayers. They will not be forgotten.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my heartfelt support for House Resolution 631, honoring the crew of the U.S.S. *Cole*. Today on a gray and sad day in Norfolk, Virginia and around the country, our nation mourns the loss of life and celebrates the service of sailors on the U.S.S. *Cole*.

My thoughts and prayers go out to the families of the seventeen sailors killed, and the thirty six injured in the terrorist bombing attack off the coast of Yemen. Our nation owes a profound debt of gratitude to these proud sailors who lost their lives or suffered injury defending the American people and the values of

freedom and democracy on which our nation stands.

I extend my deep admiration to the entire crew of the U.S.S. *Cole* for the bravery and professionalism they displayed in caring for their wounded and stabilizing their ship. This tragedy underscores the commitment and sacrifice of our nation's fighting men and women who put their lives in danger on a daily basis for the security of our country.

This attack was an unconscionable act of cowardice and those responsible will be sought out and swiftly brought to justice. The United States will stay the course, acting as the leading force of stability and freedom in the fight against terrorism.

We will not be bowed or intimidated by this attack, as will carry the memory of the U.S.S. *Cole* in our hearts to strengthen our resolve and continue the struggle for world peace. Just as these seventeen sailors protected us in life, we shall honor and protect the memory of their sacrifice by standing firm against this type of senseless violence.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the resolution.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on House Resolution 631 will be followed by several 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules that were debated yesterday.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 386, nays 0, not voting 46, as follows:

[Roll No. 531]

YEAS—386

Abercrombie	Blunt	Coble
Ackerman	Boehert	Coburn
Aderholt	Boehner	Collins
Allen	Bonilla	Combest
Andrews	Bonior	Condit
Archer	Bono	Cook
Armey	Borski	Cooksey
Baca	Boswell	Costello
Bachus	Boucher	Cox
Baird	Boyd	Coyne
Baker	Brady (PA)	Cramer
Baldacci	Brady (TX)	Crane
Baldwin	Brown (OH)	Crowley
Ballenger	Bryant	Cubin
Barcia	Burr	Cummings
Barr	Burton	Cunningham
Barrett (NE)	Buyer	Danner
Bartlett	Callahan	Davis (FL)
Barton	Calvert	Davis (IL)
Bass	Camp	Davis (VA)
Bentsen	Canady	Deal
Bereuter	Cannon	DeFazio
Berkley	Capps	DeGette
Berman	Capuano	DeLauro
Berry	Carson	DeLay
Biggert	Castle	DeMint
Bilbray	Chabot	DeMint
Bilirakis	Chambliss	Deutsch
Bishop	Clay	Diaz-Balart
Blagojevich	Clayton	Dickey
Bliley	Clement	Dicks
Blumenauer	Clyburn	Dingell
		Dixon

Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Filner
Fletcher
Foley
Ford
Fossella
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gibbons
Gilchrist
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E.B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kelly
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Klecza
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce

LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalfe
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Owens
Packard
Pallone
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Reyes

Reynolds
Riley
Rivers
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Rothman
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Ryan (WI)
Ryun (KS)
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaffer
Schakowsky
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shays
Sherman
Sherwood
Shimkus
Shows
Shuster
Simpson
Sisisky
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Snyder
Souder
Spence
Stabenow
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Strickland
Stump
Sununu
Sweeney
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)
Terry
Thomas
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Thune
Thurman
Tiahrt
Tierney
Toomey
Townes
Traficant
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Velázquez
Visclosky
Vitter
Walden
Wamp
Waters
Watkins
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weiner
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Wexler
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson

Wolf
Woolsey

Wu
Wynn

Young (AK)
Young (FL)

[Roll No. 532]
YEAS—376

NOT VOTING—46

Barrett (WI)
Becerra
Brown (FL)
Campbell
Cardin
Chenoweth-Hage
Conyers
Delahunt
Dooley
English
Fattah
Forbes
Franks (NJ)
Gephardt
Goode
Graham

Gutierrez
Hansen
Hostettler
Houghton
Jones (OH)
Kasich
Kennedy
Klink
Kolbe
Lazio
Lipinski
McCollum
McIntosh
Miller (FL)
Nethercutt
Ney

Oxley
Pascarell
Pitts
Rodriguez
Ros-Lehtinen
Sanders
Shaw
Spratt
Stupak
Talent
Turner
Walsh
Weygand
Wise

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehert
Boehner
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crowley
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell

Dixon
Doggett
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Filner
Fletcher
Ford
Fossella
Fowler
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gibbons
Gilchrist
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hill (IN)
Hill (MT)
Hilleary
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoeffel
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Horn
Hulshof
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inslee
Isakson
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E.B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kelly
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Klecza
Knollenberg

Kucinich
Kuykendall
LaFalce
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Larson
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalfe
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Ose
Owens
Packard
Pallone
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pease
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Phelps
Pickering
Pickett
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Price (NC)
Pryce (OH)
Quinn
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel

□ 1833

Mrs. CUBIN changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on each motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed on Tuesday, October 17, 2000, in the order in which that motion was entertained.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Con. Res. 415, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 3218, by the yeas and nays;

Concurring in Senate amendments to H.R. 3671, de novo;

H.R. 4148, de novo; and

S. 964, de novo.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for each electronic vote in this series.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL
DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 415.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. OSE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 415, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 0, not voting 56, as follows:

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Becerra
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggart
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehert
Boehner
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Capuano
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crowley
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell