CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

September 11, 2001

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, we are one America, one family. When one of us suffers, we all suffer.

I have been reading e-mails from my constituents in South Dakota.

We grieve with our brothers and sisters in New York and Virginia, in Maryland and D.C. South Dakotans are praying for you, and we support you. You have been there for us. We will be there for you.

To the rest of America, let me say that South Dakota stands ready to support our President in defending and protecting American citizens and American freedoms. To the terrorist world, let me say that they have declared war on a sleeping giant.

The people of South Dakota and the people of America demand justice. If they are terrorists, they can run but they cannot hide. We are coming after them. We will find them, and there will be a reckoning.

AMERICANS MUST REAFFIRM THEIR ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today we as Americans must reaffirm our allegiance to the United States of America, and as we stand here today, men and women all over this Nation are drawn to New York and drawn to Virginia and the Pentagon helping to recover, helping to discover and find our loved ones.

But we must resolve that this terrorism and this terrorist act will not undermine our constitution, will not undermine our resolve and will not undermine our faith.

To the injured and the families of the victims, I offer His amazing grace. To the firefighters and police officers who have fallen, we thank you for your sacrifice.

We ask people of all faiths all over the world to take us to the level of weeding out these terrorists because we will not attack recklessly but we will attack with purpose.

I love America, and I love this home of the brave and the free.

THE GRAY WAR

Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the bloodiest attack in American history occurred yesterday, September 11, 2001, in Lower Manhattan, New York City. Together, not farther apart, as I am sure was the intention. America now has a stronger will than any cowardly act like this can break.

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the cowardly act of war set upon our country. My thoughts and prayers are with the victims, their families, and the citizens of this great country.

As each one of us attempts to come to terms with this dastardly deed, the use of innocent civilians as a means to carry out this act was appalling. Unfortunately for our perpetrators, our resolve has been strengthened. This horrendous act has brought our Nation closer together, not farther apart.