Condemning Attack Against Our Country and Its Citizens

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

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you this morning as a man proud to be an American; proud because of the extraordinary spirit that resides in the hearts and minds of the people of this great Nation.

Yesterday our Nation was attacked. Thousands of hardworking men and women in New York City and here at the Pentagon left their homes to put in an honest day’s work and they were viciously attacked; attacked by cowardly individuals who deliberately sought to strike at the innocent.

In spite of the ugliness of this tragedy, I witnessed the beauty of the American spirit. Rising Phoenix-like out of the ashes; beauty that was demonstrated by those who were attacked, those who rescued, and those who led; beauty that was demonstrated in the form of strength of character, unity in spirit, and a willing spirit.

I believe that today, because of our pain, America is stronger than it has ever been. God bless America.

America Will Prevail Against This Adversity

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

Mr. KINGSTON. The book of Proverbs tells us that the test of gold is fire, but the test of man is adversity. Today, America is being tested one more time. But just as we in the past have faced the adversities of war, disease and depression, we will prevail.

Yesterday, in the ever-present age-old battle between good and evil, it appears that evil stole the lives and safety of our citizens; and yet it can never steal our resolve, our ideals, and our love of freedom.

Today, Congress and the American people are back at work. Tomorrow, we will seek justice; and the bell of freedom will ring once more loudly all over the globe.

Condemnation of Brutal Acts: Acknowledgment of American Heroes

(Ms. WATSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATSON of California. Yesterday was an emergency 911 call for every American in this Nation, black, white, Latino, Jew, Gentile, Christian, and non-Christian, to stand united in our utter condemnation of these brutal and inhuman acts.

Clearly, it is too early to identify with precision the source of the terrorist attack. But I am confident, with all of our resources brought together in the coming weeks and months, with our intelligence, law enforcement and military agencies, we will be able to piece together a coherent and credible story; and we will act precisely.

In closing, my prayers go out to the hundreds, thousands, perhaps millions of Americans who have been directly affected by these terrorist acts. In addition, the courageous acts of rescue workers, volunteers, our fire and police departments must be acknowledged and praised. It is now time to honor them all. We are all and they are all true American heroes.

A Day of Mourning and of Resolution

(Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of prayer and mourning for America, the victims, and their loved ones. But it is also a day of resolution. We are resolved to bring those responsible for this atrocity to justice, swift and sure, and make clear that America, that freedom itself, will never be held hostage to terror.

With a fresh awareness of all our vulnerability, we must move forward to secure our Nation. With hope that cannot be defeated, we must turn toward the best within us, put aside our differences, respond to the continuing crisis, and begin the process of rebuilding.

May God bless America.

Unconscious Act: Immeasurable Loss

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. What happened yesterday is beyond words and beyond comprehension. The act was unconscionable. The loss is immeasurable.