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here in our Nation’s Capital. We are alive and we are breathing. Every moment you speak ill of anyone else or anyone’s actions or motives, take a minute to reflect on those wounded and those dead under the rubble of the World Trade towers. Think of what their lives are like and what their families are enduring. They cannot find their loved ones, and we are demanding more briefings.

\[1430\]

They cannot find their cherished possessions, and we are interested in more acrimony. America rises to the challenge, and God bless us as we do. We have heard about indiscriminate actions of people going after and pursuing Muslims and those of faith who are here in our Nation and who have a right to be here and who are law-abiding citizens, but because of their ethnicity or religious origins, they are being held accountable for crimes that they had nothing to do with; and we should ask God to bless us that we do not allow ourselves to succumb to the same kind of mean-spiritedness that brought us to the point on Tuesday at 8:50-something in the morning where evil acts perpetrated disastrous deeds against our population.

I know God will bless us abundantly, not only because we prayed in church today, but because our Nation revolves around collective goodwill and spirit. I pray today as we move forward that we think clearly and mindfully about how we rectify this egregious behavior of others without injuring innocent people in our quest for justice. I pray we come to the conclusions, today or tomorrow, that we are a Nation of free men and we recognize the deed ahead of us is, in fact, great and it is complicated. I thank my colleagues for loving our country as much as we all do.

THE ROLE OF CONGRESS IN ESTABLISHING WARTIME POLICY

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to join with my colleague in echoing the sentiments of President Bush and that gentleman: we must respect all Americans of all ethnicities and all religions. No religion preaches mass murder, and those of the Islamic faith are as loyal as any other group of Americans and as determined not to have those who believe themselves safe from this kind of terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to be dealing with a resolution which, in some ways, still seems a bit broad, especially when one reads the Supreme Court opinion that indicates that it is Congress, rather than the President, that was really given the obligation to form American foreign policy under the Constitution. Obviously, since World War II, that is not as it has been. But we in Congress need to do more than just provide $40 billion and a blank check and leave town. I know that when we come back, we will want to do an awful lot more, perhaps providing some direction to how the President uses the powers that we will confer upon him today or tomorrow.

One thing, though, is that the resolution in one respect is not broad enough, because it gives the President the power to deal with the terrorist acts of September 11. I think the President should have equal power to deal with the horrendous bombings of our embassies in Daressalam and Nairobi and to deal with the murderous attack on our sailors on the USS Cole. One advantage of giving the President the power to deal with those incidents is we already know who Osama bin Laden is; whereas it may take weeks or months to establish who is culpable for this week’s terrible crimes.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am not a senior member of this House; I am a man of limited responsibility and far more limited wisdom. But I do have a few ideas as to how we should respond to what has happened to us.

1. I sit on the Committee on Financial Services, and I know it has been suggested by the chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means that we somehow help our stock market by providing a lower capital gains tax. That would be a panic-selling facilitation act. It would mean that those who want to sell in panic, get out of the stock market and weaken America, in doing so would pay less tax. Instead, what we need, Mr. Speaker, is to encourage Americans to bet on America. We will prevail, we will be strong, and those who bet on America on Monday will be rewarded on Tuesday.

2. If it should be necessary to change our policy, and I do not think it is, in order to help the stock market, then we should allow more money to be invested in IRAs and 401(k)s on the assumption, or on the requirement, that the additional funds be invested in the stock market. I do not think that will be necessary. The international stock markets have responded relatively well, and the smart money will be bet on America.

3. Mr. Speaker, also on the Committee on Financial Services, I am concerned that the bank secrecy laws of our allies may interfere with our investigation of Osama bin Laden and other groups. Bin Laden is credited with having $200 million in assets, and these are not held in gold bars in Qandahar, Afghanistan. Financial institutions do business with Osama bin Laden and we need to hear right now from the Ambassador of every country that has bank secrecy laws, that those laws will be waived to assist America in its hour of need. No country dare withhold information that we need and claim to be America’s friend. We cannot do business as usual with those who do business with terrorists and then will not share the financial records with us.

4. Mr. Speaker, we should also look at the Attorney General guidelines for investigating domestic organizations. I am told that the FBI, before they investigate an organization, must have evidence that that organization is actually plotting crimes. We should also, and this is a tough one, but we should at least consider a congressional mandate that the FBI also investigate those organizations that strongly advocate killing as many Americans as possible while disclaiming that they are actually involved in carrying out plots to do so; because if an organization is capable of advocating killing as many Americans as possible and do so on American soil, they will be able to recruit individuals who will be able to plan to actually carry out those beliefs.

5. Mr. Speaker, we should look at the proposals that have been made to have a locked cabin, in which the pilot sits, with bulletproofing. I know that there are some details to be worked out in that, particularly as to pilot safety, but a law that does not allow hijackers into the pilot cabin.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today we approved an emergency appropriation and will soon consider a bill regarding the use of force to respond to the deplorable terrorist acts committed against the people of our Nation, and against the principles that our country represents: freedom, liberty, democracy and respect for the law.

As our government works to develop a comprehensive and decisive response to this challenge, I am reminded of the Reagan doctrine of peace through strength and the principles of deterrence. It took one kind of military force to deter an attack when the United States possessed overwhelmingly and unparalleled military power. However, it takes another kind, now, that our enemy is cowardly and elusive, refusing to show its face, hiding in the shadows of the misery and terror it has created.

This is a different world. Our defenses must be based on recognition and awareness of the methods, weapons, tactics and behavior of this new enemy. Our security depends on being prepared to meet these new threats head-on, threats that have turned the Continental United States into a new theater of conflict.

As former President Ronald Reagan once said, “We have a rendezvous with
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destiny. We will preserve for our children this, the last best hope of man on Earth. If we fail, at least let our children and our children's children say of us, we justified our brief moment here. We did all that could be done."

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker. I ask unanimous consent to swap my place with the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHlers) at this time.

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

There was no objection.

LEGISLATION TO UPDATE THE STATE DEPARTMENT REWARDS PROGRAM

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

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, a few hours ago I received a phone call from Captain Clay Fearnow, my former commanding officer in the Navy during the Kosovo conflict. Clay told me of a terrible loss we had suffered in the Navy family as part of the Pentagon disaster. Most of the Navy Command Center was hit, including the Chief of Naval Operations Intelligence plot offices. It is a point of intense personal loss for me and my family because of that information. My wife and I worked in that office. We know many people there. We want to offer our sympathy and support to the families of the victims in the Naval Intelligence Community that suffered this loss on Tuesday.

Mr. Speaker, we can do something about this, and want to offer one suggestion in the form of legislation that we will be offering later on today.

In a previous life as a congressional staffer, I worked on legislation concerning the State Department Rewards Program offered for information leading to the arrest of individuals who lead terrorist attacks against Americans and American targets. This has been a very successful program, one until recently, where up to $1 million was offered for the apprehension of these international criminals. Mr. Kansi that led the attack against people outside the CIA was one of the criminals caught by this program.

We had to update this program 2 years ago because the awards offered had become outdated and, in legislation lead by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) of the Committee on International Relations, we raised that amount to $5 million. The program has grown and it has led to things like this.

After the Africa embassy bombings, the State Department was able to produce posters like this, and I want to publicize today that under current U.S. law and authorities available, there is a $5 million reward offered for the arrest of Osama bin Laden for a previous conviction of bombings in Africa. These rewards are offered up to $5 million for attackers against American embassies, bases, and American individuals, and for the arrest of United Nations war criminals. I will say in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia, over two dozen war criminals have been apprehended, including now the most famous, the former Serbian President, Slobodan Milosevic.

At the end of this day today, we will be offering legislation to increase the reward amount for terrorists that lead attacks against Americans to $25 million, and we will authorize up to $50 million in the rewards account. We need to offer additional funds because of the changing enemy we face. Probably for the first time in our history, we now know that many of the enemies we face are very wealthy individuals. It is also likely that they have the backing of governments, and higher awards are needed to spark the imagination of the public and press in other countries.

I want to commend the leaders of this effort that have already agreed to join us, such as the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), a real leader in catching war criminals and for the arrest of people who lead terrorist attacks against individuals. I also want to thank Chairman Smith who oversees the State Department accounts and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and many others who have agreed to sign on to this legislation. For other Members interested in signing on, we will be leaving the books open for original cosponsors until the close of business today.

I think this is one of the many aspects of the battle that we are yet to face, but with an increased awards account, I think we can show everyone the seriousness of our effort and help energize the investigation which is now ongoing.

NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY AND PRAYER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, today we join the President of the United States in a national day of unity and prayer. I was moved by his citing of the words of Franklin Delano Roosevelt expressing the fact that warm courage exhibits national unity. Our eyes have been riveted on the good citizens of New York, the valor that they have shown, the spirit of comfort and unity that they have given to each other. Might I add that the Congress stands with them, behind them, and alongside of them.

Might I also say to the fallen men and women, the emergency workers, police and fire, coming from Houston, Texas let me say to them on behalf of all of our citizens and the State of Texas, we mourn with them and we celebrate the lives of those who gave their lives.

But I come today to discuss very briefly another loss, another constituency of loss; that is, our children, the children of those fallen, either in the tragedy of their parent or a guardian being on those terrible planes, civilian airplanes being used as weapons, or those fallen in the World Trade Building.

We realize, along with our military personnel, that they are part of families and they are loved. I believe it is important as we debate today the resolution to go forward and to assist the President and consult with the President on how we will address these terrorist acts, let us not forget our children.

At the end of the day, I expect to offer and file a resolution that will help and encourage to expedite any benefits that are due and owing to children who have lost a guardian, a parent, or parents.

I am reminded of a story told by one of my staffers from New York. His sister attends a school just a few blocks away from the World Trade Buildings. I still believe that those buildings stand in spirit. She acknowledged to him that one of the youngsters that was her classmate saw two parents go off to work that morning, and has yet to see them as of today.

There will be many stories like that. Many of our children will need someone other than the parent or guardian to love them and to nourish them. Let us not have bureaucracy stand in the way of providing these children with their immediate needs, the monetary needs, as we embrace them to provide the nurturing needs, the medical assistance, the foster care assistance, the psychological needs. Let us wash away the entanglement of red tape, work with our State and local agencies, and push forward the needs of our children.

This concurrent resolution will have the Congress on record that we are making our children's needs a priority. I would ask my colleagues to join me. This is already a bipartisan resolution, and I thank those who have agreed to work with me, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), and the gentleman from the very unfortunate tragedy of September 11th, Mr. KELLY), the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON), and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEeks),