September 20, 2001

No one can doubt the conviction of the men and women of America’s military who moved swiftly to safeguard our nation, or the thousands of Americans on reserve duty who stood ready for the call to action.

The entire world is in awe of the outpouring of support of people, from the youngest children to our senior citizens who looked for things or money to donate, wrote encouraging messages to the worker, and supported friends, neighbors and even strangers in any way they could during a traumatic time.

But that is what America is. America is resilient, America is resourceful. America is at her very best when challenged and when angered. Others around the world often misunderstand America’s resolve. Now the execution of that resolve will leave no questions.

In this Capitol, we celebrate what makes our nation special. We revere the times when we can pursue those policies that we believe to be in the best interest of the United States. We have had many principled debates in which we highlight, not hide, our differences of opinion. We cherish those moments because that is what freedom brings to us—the ability to advance those causes that are important to us, while openly disagreeing with those we dislike without the fear of retribution.

And now, in a moment of historical significance, we also celebrate another matter that makes our nation special—the ability to come together as one when our precious freedom is attacked by those who either misunderstand or are fearful of freedom’s power.

In the days and weeks to come, this Congress will work together on behalf of our nation. We will have disagreements, and at the end of the day our nation and we will be better for it.

Those who thought that they could infect our nation with ill will should remember the words of a great man who served in this very building, Hubert Humphrey: “Freedom is the most contagious virus known to man.” Let us use this challenge to create an opportunity for America to once again celebrate freedom, and to help spread it to others who for too long have been under the scourge of terror.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Mr. Speaker, once again allow me to voice my strong support for this worthy event and those supporting it.

RECOGNIZING MR. SCOTT HURFF
HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a young Ohioan from my district who has distinguished himself among his peers and community.

Mr. Scott Hurff, an honor student at Dublin Coffman High School and a 2001 delegate to Ohio’s American Legion Boys State, delivered the following address at this year’s Memorial Day ceremonies in Dublin, OH. I believe this stirring presentation is worthy of the Nation’s attention.

Oration by Scott Hurff, Boy’s State Delegte 2001

They kicked him. The Nazis kicked him to see if he was dead.
My great-grandfather, who landed at Normandy in WW II, had to play dead to stay alive. He had landed fighting next to his friends. Now they were dead. The Nazis kicked their bodies to see if they were alive, and if they believed that there was some spark of life left in them, they shot them.

My great-grandfather this was eventually discharged because of severe frostbite on his feet. He would be forever tormented with the images of the short time he spent in Europe. At this very second, America has seen only 11 generations. It is only 225 years old. Yet, our country is for this generation to dedicate their time to ensuring that the citizens of America are fully aware of what has been given to them and what could easily be taken away. This generation has to re-instate the active patriotism and restore the constant awareness of what this country is based upon. We must ensure another 11 generations, 225 years, and beyond. We must be leaders in this transition.

As President Bush said, “The only good society is a caring society.” Take heart to what has been done for you, and be motivated to make a difference in someone’s life. Become a teacher. Help lead the way to guarantee equality in Ohio’s schools. Support the World War II memorial. Participate in government. That is the way to ensure that America’s pillars stand. That is the way to honor the soldiers that fought to preserve those pillars.

TRIBUTE TO COLORADO STATE SENATOR MARK HILLMAN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. SCHAFER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise to express gratitude and congratulations to Colorado State Senator Mark Hillman of Burlington, CO, this year’s recipient of the National Legislator of the Year by the American Legislative Exchange Council. The American Legislative Exchange Council gives this award to outstanding legislators who understand that what is good for business is good for America.

In a recent edition of the La Junta Tribune Democrat Duane Parde, executive director of the American Legislative Exchange Council, congratulated Senator Hillman. He said, “Mark Hillman is one of the finest state legislators in the nation. He’s a leader who truly personifies the Jeffersonian principles of individual liberty, limited government and free markets.”

Mr. Speaker, Senator Hillman is a person of high integrity and honor. He considers it a privilege to know and work with him. Mark has served the State of Colorado well taking the responsibilities and standards of his job to the