knives, some of whom were on the terrorist watch list. It's safe to say that the airport security system failed us.

If we are passing legislation to improve the condition of the airline industry, shouldn't we also address this issue? Perhaps airport security should truly be a security issue, not merely a business issue that, until last week, was mostly considered in terms of a company's bottom line. Don't get me wrong—the bottom line is important to our capitalist economy, but I have come to the conclusion that airport security should not be subject to those concerns. There are many interesting ideas out there for how to improve it, but I believe first and foremost we need to make airport security a responsibility of the Federal Government: perhaps under the Department of Transportation, or the Coast Guard.

In conclusion, I want to again express my disappointment at having to oppose this bill. I sincerely hope that the President, Senate leaders, and House leaders will work to address these important concerns before a package is signed into law.

AIR TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SYSTEM STABILIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
OF IDAHO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues and constituents my reasons for voting against H.R. 2926, the Air Transportation Safety and Stabilization Act. I believe it is important for every member to make known their thinking behind such an important vote.

The terrorist attacks on Sep. 11 devastated the American aviation industry. Hundreds of passengers, dozens of airline employees and thousands of innocent people on the ground died in the fiery crashes of the four airliners. America’s commercial airlines were grounded for 3 days. Most of general aviation was grounded for more than a week, and some components of the general aviation industry remain grounded today. Insurers of aviation airlines are canceling their policies, and banks are refusing to extend loans to keep the system intact. Under these circumstances some form of assistance to the airline industry is essential for our economy and national security.

H.R. 2926, however, is the wrong form of relief. What should have been immediate relief from the effects of the attacks has become a golden parachute for the aviation industry, indemnifying many airlines from the effects of calamitous business decisions made long before Sept 11. In a time of tragedy for our nation and the world this Congress has failed to closely examine this bill.

The airline industry makes in at most $400 million a day. With a grounding of 3 days, and the continued closure of Reagan National Airport, the direct losses to the industry by government action can be calculated at roughly $2 billion. This act makes available cash in the amount of $4.5 billion for the passenger airlines, more than twice the direct losses of the airlines. Furthermore, this cash will be apportioned among the airlines, not according to how much revenue they lost because of the attacks, but how much capacity they had. This preference for available seat miles over revenue passenger miles can only benefit those carriers whose own bad business decisions before September 11 had left them with too much capacity and too little sales.

H.R. 2926 supposedly contained extra funding for security. The $3 billion authorized for security measures, however, has already been appropriated by Congress from the $40 billion emergency spending package, which I supported. To claim that this bill had any new funding for security is simply not true. Without needed security improvements it is impossible to see how airline traffic can return to normal levels. The bailout legislation should have waited for a security package in order to comprehensively deal with this situation.

H.R. 2926 would have been constitutional if it had been drafted as a focused bill to keep our airlines flying in the wake of the devastating attacks on our country. The creation of an entitlement fund, the overcompensation of the airlines, rewards for inefficient carriers, and lack of new funding for airline security all combined to make this a deeply flawed bill. For all of these reasons and more I voted against H.R. 2926 and urged my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING SERGEANT DANIEL P. O’SHEA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, to place your life in the line of duty day in and day out for the sake of others is an honorable and noble task, yet that is exactly what police officers do regularly. I would like to take the opportunity to recognize Sergeant Daniel P. O’Shea for his outstanding service to his community as a member of the Denver Police Department.

Sergeant Daniel P. O’Shea has been named one of America’s finest at the upcoming TOP COPS Awards ceremony. Officer O’Shea is one of only twenty officers to be recognized in the category of Exemplary Leadership. He serves as a board member of Pima Community College, which helped to raise funds for the Hispanic Student Endowment Fund, create the Amigos de Pima, and partnered with the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) to create and fund a year-round program to assist young students with their reading skills. He is dedicated to various organizations such as LULAC, the Metropolitan Education Commission, the Knights of Columbus, and the Tucson Pima Arts Council. He also devotes his time to serving on the State’s Behavioral Health Planning Council, the University of Arizona’s Diversity Action Council.

Mr. Fimbres’ standing as a community leader is evident by his commitment to these organizations and countless hours of volunteer work throughout the community. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing this outstanding citizen and community leader for his fine work and dedication.

SPEECH BY U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, as the Congress continues to move forward following the horrific and tragic events of September 11, 2001, I would like to insert for the RECORD a recent speech given by United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan.

Mr. Annan’s speech is about the contributions and vision of former U.N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld. While the speech was given on September 6th, five days before the attacks, I believe it provides for interesting reading as we examine our notions of international security and multi-lateral cooperation.