

infected. Every minute a child dies of the virus. Just as life and death goes on after September 11, so must we continue our fight against the HIV and AIDS epidemic. Before the terrorist attack two months ago, tremendous momentum had been achieved in that fight. To lose it now would be to compound one tragedy with another.

“New figures released in advance of World AIDS Day, December 1, show that more than 40 million people are now living with the virus. The vast majority of them are in sub-Saharan Africa, where the devastation is so acute that it has become one of the major obstacles to development. But parts of the Caribbean and Asia are not far behind and the pandemic is spreading at an alarming rate in Eastern Europe. For too long global progress and facing up to AIDS was painfully slow, and nowhere near commensurate with the challenge. But in the past year for much of the international community, the magnitude of this crisis has finally begun to sink in. Never in the 2 long decades that the world has faced this growing catastrophe have there been such a sense of common resolve and collective possibility.

“Public opinion has been mobilized by the media and nongovernmental organizations and activists, by doctors and economists and by people living with the disease. Pharmaceutical companies have made their AIDS drugs more affordable in poor countries, and a growing number of corporations have created programs to provide both prevention and treatment for employees in the wider community. Foundations are making increasingly imaginative and generous contributions, both financial and intellectual in prevention, in reducing mother-to-child transmission and the search for the vaccine.

“In a growing number of countries, an effective prevention campaign has been launched. There has been an increased recognition about donors in the most affected countries of the link between prevention and treatment.”

This is General Kofi Annan’s statement today in the Washington Post. Let me underscore how tragic it is: 7,000 people in sub-Saharan Africa die each day. Seven thousand people, almost double those killed in the World Trade Center. Seven thousand a day in sub-Saharan Africa.

It is an international issue that we must grapple with. I am proud to say President Bush has committed \$200 million to the global fund to fight HIV and AIDS. The global fund has right now pledges totalling \$1.5 billion and I am proud to see our President, George Bush, committed to this goal and providing financial response and support.

I am asking Congress for an additional \$1 billion for the fund, and I hope we are able to do that.

Today we should reflect on those lost and use their memories to fuel our ef-

forts to eradicate this pandemic. This is one of the most serious health challenges we have faced and will face in my lifetime. I pledge as a Member of this body to continue to work with our leaders, the Speaker of the House and others, in order to effectuate a solid policy that helps care for those suffering from this dreaded disease. We can find a way to not only, we pray, create a vaccine, but eradicate this scourge among mankind. But we must particularly set our sights on sub-Saharan Africa and other places because of the poverty and because of the lack of knowledge and because a lack of medical care and treatment is ravaging and destroying the humanity that lives there.

I pledge my support and I know Congress joins us today as we salute World AIDS Day tomorrow morning in our global fight against this disease.

#### FOR THE LONG HAUL

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, in the pre-dawn hours of April 12, 1861, Confederate General P.G.T. Beauregard gave the order to fire on Fort Sumter. After 34 hours of bombardment, a white flag ended the first battle of the Civil War.

The only casualty was a Confederate horse. Later a Northern Congressman predicted that we could, “wipe up with one handkerchief the blood that would be spilled in putting down the rebellion.” He was wrong.

As the Northern Alliance supported by our bombers and Special Forces roll across Afghanistan, I fear the same overconfidence taking root here in Congress.

In the words of the poet, “We have miles to go before we sleep.” So it is with the war on terrorism.

Many ask me what will come next. The answer is embedded in the question. We all know that there will be a next. It is important that those who advance terrorism not know when.

It is important that we understand that the coming phase probably will not be as painless in defeating the Taliban. Other countries do not offer ready-made freedom fighters like the Northern Alliance. We must also brace ourselves for potential news blackouts. I pray that any future deployments of our Special Forces into other countries will not be announced on CNBC. SEAL teams do their best work away from the glare of Klieg lights.

Our commander in chief has made it clear from the very beginning, this will be a long war involving many countries that harbor terrorism.

It began at a time of their choosing. It will end at a time and under the terms that we decide. We must not be-

come overconfident. It will take many handkerchiefs. There will be casualties, both American and innocent civilians. But I have no doubt that we will prevail. And in the end, we will leave to future generations a much safer planet. To victory.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal business.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. ENGEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOLEY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PENCE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FOLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GUTKNECHT, for 5 minutes, today.

#### SENATE BILL REFERRED

A joint resolution of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker’s table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S.J. Res. 26. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Patricia Q. Stonesifer as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on House Administration.

#### SENATE ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The SPEAKER announced his signature to enrolled bills of the Senate of the following titles:

S. 1459. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 550 West Fort Street in Boise, Idaho, as the “James A. McClure Federal Building and United States Courthouse”.

S. 1573. An act to authorize the provision of educational and health care assistance to the women and children of Afghanistan.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o’clock and 45 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, December 4, 2001, at 12:30 p.m., for morning hour debates.