

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2001*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, a previously scheduled commitment prevented me from being in Washington, D.C. and voting on H. Con. Res. 280 on December 4, 2001. Consistent with my record of strong support for Israel, I would have voted yes on this important legislation. H. Con. Res. 280 expresses solidarity with the people of Israel in the fight against terrorism.

The horrific murders of 26 innocent people by Palestinian terrorists during the weekend of December 1–2 make clear the need for all Americans to show their support for the people and Israel during this dangerous and troubled time. Our nation has no more consistent friend and ally in the international struggle against terrorism than Israel. The people of Israel set an invaluable international example with their commitment to democracy and freedom and dedication to working for peace. The people of Israel continue to pay a high price for these ideals. Their nation remains a target of a deadly and unrelenting terror campaign that is often aimed directly at young people and families. Israel deserves and needs our unwavering support at this difficult time.

I strongly support the resolution's call for the Palestinian Authority to destroy the infrastructure of Palestinian terrorist groups and to pursue and arrest terrorist whose incarceration has been called for by Israel. I strongly urge President Bush to take any and all steps to assure these goals are met, including suspending all relations with Yasir Arafat and the Palestinian Authority if necessary.

The safety and security of all people of the world who value freedom and respect the rule of law has never been more threatened. The United States and Israel must remain the closest of allies in our mutual quest to stop terrorism and work for peace. I am pleased to give H. Con. Res. 280 my unqualified support.

TRIBUTE TO ANNETTE M. RAINWATER, DEDICATED ACTIVIST AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZER

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2001*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman who has given her life to the pursuit of justice and equality.

Annette M. Rainwater is one of Detroit's most committed activists. She came of age at a time when our country and our democracy were at a crossroads. When Dr. King called on Americans to join together to stand up for their rights, to register voters, to fulfill the promise of democracy, she answered that call. She answered it with passion, intelligence, and faith that we could shape a better future. Not only did Annette get involved, she stayed involved. Over the years, she has held leadership positions with such organizations as the

Southern Christian Leadership Council, the NAACP, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and the National Political Congress of Black Women, just to name a few. But in all of these roles, her capacity to inspire others and her determination shone through.

Annette also worked tirelessly in her community. As a precinct delegate, she knocked on countless doors and recruited many volunteers. When it came time to get out the vote, Annette was always ready to help. She has offered her skills as an organizer as well, through her roles as a Board member of the Fifteenth Democratic District Congressional Organization and Democratic Party State Central member. She has also been a dedicated public servant, serving as the chief of staff for Councilman Clyde Cleveland.

Although Annette is retiring, she will leave a legacy of activists and public servants to continue her work. She has been a mentor to many, including Llena Jackson-Leslie, Vice President of the National Women's Political Caucus, Judge Greg Mathis, and Wayne County Commissioner Jewel Ware. These leaders and others will help keep the stories of the civil rights struggle alive—and help make sure that we move forward, and never forget where we've been.

To paraphrase Dr. Martin Luther King, the measure of a person is not where she stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where she stands at times of challenge and controversy. During one of the most difficult times in our history, Annette Rainwater stood for justice, equality, and a future that would allow all Americans the opportunity to reach our fullest potential.

Detroit is a better place because Annette Rainwater calls it home. She has earned our thanks for her half-century of selfless dedication to creating a more just city, state and nation.

BOOK DEVELOPED BY RON MORGAN

**HON. DAVE WELDON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 11, 2001*

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Ron Morgan of Cape Canaveral, Florida, is becoming a well known expert on the U.S. flag. He has developed a comprehensive book, *The American Spirit in the New Millennium*, that endeavors to renew pride in our flag and to present a fair case about its legal protections, effectively countering the arguments of those who would allow our flag to be desecrated. He wants to inspire further research and study of not just the history of the flag, but United States history, law and government. I am proud that Ron Morgan is my constituent on Florida's Space Coast, and I thank him for his hard work and dedication to promote the values represented in our flag. I wish to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a chapter from his book that was updated since the September 11 attacks:

AMERICA UNITED—A CALL TO HONOR

On January 1 in the year 2000, the entire world was transfixed as a glowing ball of

light descended above Times Square, amid the cheers and adulations of over one million New Yorkers. The amazing technology of the last century provided live pictures of this joyous event to every nation in the world, as the global celebration of Y2K signaled the grand commencement of this new millennium.

On September 11 in the year 2001, the entire world was transfixed as the symbol of this new millennium, the mighty twin towers of the World Trade Center, descended in a horrendous roar of fiery steel and concrete, with the unspeakable loss of thousands of innocent men, women and children from America and from 80 sovereign nations around the globe. The amazing technology of the last century provided live pictures of this insane crime against humanity, as the world reeled in terror.

As the immensity of the horror overcame the paralyzing visual shock, people from every nation on earth truly believed they were witnessing the beginning of the end of the civilized world—or as many describe it, the Apocalypse. The bright sunshine was instantly transformed into the pitch-blackness of a moonless night by billowing clouds of black carbon, grey concrete and white ash. Clouds that had not been seen in our nation for 70 years, since the towering clouds of brown dust swept relentlessly across the Great Plains in the 1930's and turned America's heartland into America's wasteland.

Fellow human beings began to emerge from those clouds, from the darkness into the light. Some walked, some ran, some carried each other—but all moved with dignity. The eerie, ash covered figures that stepped out of those clouds into the waiting arms of the rescuers, displayed no recognizable ethnic or racial characteristics visible to the naked eye.

We were one with them, and they were ours. New York City was truly united in a heroic display of courage, self-sacrifice, and compassion.

The mightiest city on the planet was brought to its knees in seconds by an act of barbarism unparalleled in history. But as the dust settled amid the raging fires that still burned, a wondrous transformation slowly enveloped that scene of mindless carnage.

The true American spirit began to rise higher than the tall towers that once dominated the skyline of New York. It gave vibrant notice that we have suffered a grievous wound, we have lost uncounted lives, but we will not be bowed, we will endure!

The spirit of courage that drove our fearless and tireless firefighters, police officers, medical personnel and scores of civilian volunteers, who offered their own lives to save others. The spirit of help that mobilized the entire city to aid and comfort the victims, their families and the rescuers who continued to brave unrelenting danger. The spirit of prayer that brought people of all faiths together, as never before in memory.

The spirit that galvanized the entire nation, with volunteers from every state and even foreign nations streaming in New York to help in the enormous effort of recovery. The United States Congress and the Administration were truly unified for the first time since World War II. Our nation spoke with one voice, with one purpose and with one message—This terror shall not endure. Our citizens and our freedoms shall be defended and preserved. Justice under law will prevail!

And the unyielding symbol of the American spirit began to appear on the helmets and the tunics of the incredible rescue personnel. It began to appear on cabs, buses,