

Mr. PAYNE of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, we had an election in Virginia yesterday, and the Republicans in this House ought to sit up and take notice.

Our Republican Governor tried to make the election a referendum on his program of tax cuts. Under the Governor's plan, tax cuts would be paid for by slashing spending for colleges and universities, law enforcement, and important social services. In Virginia, the Republicans' tax cuts would take effect right away, but painful spending cuts would be put off for the future.

Does that sound familiar?

The people of Virginia got a good look at the Allen plan, and despite the Governor's tireless campaigning, they rejected his program by a big margin. They defied the odds and kept the Virginia General Assembly in Democratic hands.

Mr. Speaker, the message from yesterday is clear: People do want tax relief, but not if it means gutting programs that help our children and help make our communities strong, and not if it means putting balancing the budget at risk. It is a lesson that we ought to learn here in Washington.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the order of the House of yesterday, I call up the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 31) honoring the life and legacy of Yitzhak Rabin, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The Clerk read the Senate concurrent resolution, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 31

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin, a true hero of Israel, was born in Jerusalem on March 1, 1922; Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served in the Israel Defense Forces for more than two decades, and fought in three wars including service as Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces during the Six Day War of June 1967;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served the people of Israel with great distinction in a number of government positions, including Ambassador to the United States from 1968 to 1973, Minister of Defense from 1984 to 1988, and twice as Prime Minister from 1974 to 1977 and from June 1992 until his assassination;

Whereas under the leadership of Yitzhak Rabin, a framework for peace between Israel and the Palestinians was established with the signing of the Declaration of Principles on September 13, 1993, continued with the conclusion of a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan on October 26, 1994, and continues today;

Whereas on December 10, 1994, Yitzhak Rabin was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace for his vision and accomplishments as a peacemaker;

Whereas shortly before his assassination, Yitzhak Rabin said, "I have always believed that the majority of the people want peace and are ready to take a chance for peace. . . . Peace is not only in prayers . . . but it is in the desire of the Jewish people.";

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin's entire life was dedicated to the cause of peace and security for Israel and its people; and

Whereas on November 4, 1995, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated in Tel Aviv, Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Congress—

(1) condemns the heinous assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the strongest possible terms;

(2) extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and to all the people of Israel in this moment of tragedy;

(3) expresses its admiration for the historic contributions made by Yitzhak Rabin over his long and distinguished career of public service;

(4) expresses its support for the government of Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to the process of building a just and lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors.

SEC. 2. When the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect in honor of the late Yitzhak Rabin.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Senate is directed to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, November 7, 1995, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HAMILTON] each will be recognized for 45 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow and a sense of personal loss that today we consider legislation that memorializes the life and legacy of Israel's slain Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin. Prime Minister Rabin, who was gunned down on Saturday night by a lone assassin, was attacked by an extremist who was opposed to his efforts at reconciliation and peace with the PLO, initiated 2 years ago with the signing of the Declaration of Principles.

The shocking circumstances of Prime Minister Rabin's death magnify the tragedy of his loss. I was honored to participate in the Presidential delegation that attended Prime Minister Rabin's state funeral in Jerusalem. It was gratifying to see an extensive list of Heads of State and international dignitaries in attendance, including representatives of nations with which Israel does not have diplomatic relations, and to hear many eloquent speakers reiterate their commitment to a lasting peace throughout the region.

This distinguished gathering mourned the life and legacy of Yitzhak Rabin, a soldier-statesman who became his nation's first native born Prime Minister. Born in Jerusalem in 1922, as a young man, Yitzhak Rabin fought for Israel's independence by defending the Tel-Aviv-Jerusalem highway. He distinguished himself on numerous occasions, none more so than when, as Chief of Staff of the Israeli Defense Forces, he led Israel's troops through the Old City to the Wailing Wall during the Six-Day war of 1967. This memorable event brought about the reunification of all Jerusalem, and Rabin's birthplace, an Israel's capital.

General Rabin also distinguished himself in his service to his country as Ambassador to the United States for 5 years. He contributed significantly to the close United States-Israel partnership that persists today. His commitment to that relationship, as well as his personal and unstinting commitment to peace with security, were evident throughout the remainder of his political career, both as Minister of Defense and as Prime Minister of Israel.

Just 2 weeks ago Congress celebrated the 3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. As Jerusalem's most famous native son, Prime Minister Rabin participated with us in the roundtable delivering deeply moving remarks. His presence still echoes in our hallway. It is with a sense of utter disbelief that we consider this legislation today.

Prime Minister Rabin will forever be remembered as a man who not only led Israel to victory in war, but who also led her citizens in pursuit of peace. At this troubled time in Israel's history, we express our support for Israel's transition government, and reaffirm the congressional commitment to a lasting peace between Israel and her neighbors.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Rabin family, for Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and for all the people of Israel at this time.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], the distinguished minority leader.

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution—to pay tribute to one of the greatest soldiers of peace the world has ever known.

Like all Americans, I was shocked and saddened at the senseless murder of Prime Minister Rabin this past Sunday. And the great irony is that he died as he lived—celebrating and advocating the cause of peace in the Middle East.

To me, Yitzhak Rabin was the very essence of leadership, because up until the last moments of his life, he did not do what was easy; he did not do what was popular—he did what was right.

He not only brought his nation to the brink of a real and lasting peace—he rallied millions of Israelis, and millions of people all over the world, in support of that crusade.

Many of us in this Chamber had the opportunity to travel to Israel on Monday—to grieve along with the people of Israel. And for me, as for so many of us, the loss was as personal as it was political.

For I know Yitzhak Rabin as a kind and caring man—as someone who carried a love for his people, and an abiding belief in peace, deep inside him. To

talk with him—even to stand in the same room with him—was to feel his generosity of spirit, and his profound humanity.

Yitzhak Rabin may be irreplaceable—and his kind of leadership may come once in a generation, perhaps once in a century. But there is one thing that each Member of this House can do to honor his name, and that is to keep his dream alive, to put into practice the peace agreement he has already secured, and to keep waging his battle for a comprehensive peace throughout the Middle East. If we can do that, if we can give meaning to the dream that sustained Yitzhak Rabin both in life and in his work, then we will know that the did not die in vain.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support this resolution to honor the name and the work and the commitment of a great human being, Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. HOKE].

Mr. HOKE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to and speak words on behalf of Yitzhak Rabin. I had the privilege of meeting Prime Minister Rabin in August 1995 with a very small delegation which was hosted in his office in Jerusalem. We spent about an hour, an hour and a quarter, with the Prime Minister. I recognized immediately that this was a man who was a giant, because he put ahead of his own personal ambition, ahead of his party's political ambitions, ahead of any personal thought, obviously even of personal welfare and safety, he put first and foremost his love for the state of Israel and his commitment to the long-term preservation and viability and existence of the nation of Israel, and he was, in that sense, utterly unique in that he brought these qualities of genuine selflessness to the work that he did and to the Israeli people.

It is a tremendous sense of loss, not just with respect to the leadership that is gone, this man who was in fact both the George Washington and ultimately the Abraham Lincoln of his people, but it is also a sense of personal loss that makes me very sad about the events of this past weekend, the falling of this extraordinary figure, a figure who, first and foremost, put love of nation, and who set an example for leadership everywhere. I support this resolution.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. WYNN].

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this resolution. In our times, we have found out that giants do not get to die in bed: John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Anwar Sadat, and now Yitzhak Rabin. Because these giants have the courage to stand up and speak out on controversial issues and take risks, all too often they are the victims of the assassin's bullet.

Yitzhak Rabin was indeed a giant. Among his last comments at the peace rally before his assassination he said, "People really want peace." This was the idea that guided the last few years of his life. Because Rabin was both a realist and a visionary, he understood that the use of force alone would not solve the problems of the Middle East. He also understood that the road to peace would be long and difficult. He understood that a political solution would require consideration of politically unpopular terms, and direct talks with people he often believed were directly responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Israeli citizens. He understood that it is sometimes necessary to do that which is unpleasant for the sake of a greater good.

I believe this led him to shake hands with former adversary PLO leader Yasser Arafat on the White House lawn for the sake of peace. He leaves us a legacy that should not die. A giant has died. Let his legacy of peace live on.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. TORKILDSEN].

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman of the committee for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, the United States and Israel share many ideals, beliefs, and goals. We both cherish peace, but will gladly fight to maintain democracy and freedom. Now, sadly, regrettably, we also share the martyrdom of a national hero.

Like our Nation's first martyr, Abraham Lincoln, Yitzhak Rabin dedicated his life to building a whole and free nation. Both men were shaped by the tragic necessity of war, though war did not take them from us. Instead, assassins stole these men of peace with senseless acts of vengeance.

We both know the tragedy of mindless violence. America has learned to recover, and, you, too will heal as America has healed. While that healing will always be darkened by the memory of this tragedy, the life cut down while leading Israel, the memory should also be brightened by Yitzhak Rabin's life, and leading Israel and the world to peace in the Mideast.

Following Abraham Lincoln's assassination, Herman Melville wrote "The Martyr," and spoke of the endurance of the American spirit, a spirit that Israel shares:

He lieth in his blood,
The father in his face,
They have killed him, the Forgiver,
The Avenger takes his place.
There is a sobbing of the strong,
And a pall upon the land
But the people in their weeping,
Bare the iron hand.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN].

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, the last time that Yitzhak Rabin spoke to us right here in the U.S. Congress, he invoked a phrase from Archibald

MacLeish, and used it in reference to Israel's young dead soldiers: "Their tombstones say, 'We leave you our deaths. Give them their meaning.'" Last week God said to us, "I give you his death. Give it its meaning."

Throughout the course of human history, when the mortal lives of our great leaders have been sacrificed to the cause of peace, brotherhood, and progress, the moral force of their message takes on an immortal life of its own within the human character. Yitzhak Rabin takes his place alongside those responsible for the evolution of the human spirit: Rabbi Akiba, who recited the Shema as he was being tortured to death for having preached during his life that "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," through Jesus Christ, Mahatma Ghandi, Anwar Sadat, Martin Luther King, and so many others whose shoulders we stand upon.

Today, our task, our responsibility, for which future generations will hold us accountable, is to be true to their memory, to give the life of Yitzhak Rabin its deserved, its lasting, and its great meaning.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. ZIMMER].

Mr. ZIMMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I had the great honor of meeting with Yitzhak Rabin, both before he was Prime Minister and when he was Prime Minister, in two visits to Israel, being impressed by this strength, the understanding, and his strategic vision of the man, and his love for his nation and for his people.

As one of thousands of New Jerseyans who attended a memorial service for slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, I was moved by the outpouring of emotion for one of the world's great leaders.

As a Jew, I was stunned and sickened to learn that Rabin was killed by another Jew in an act of despicable cowardice. We must not allow Rabin's heroic efforts to be tarnished by those who would seek to exploit his tragic death as an opportunity to further divide the Israeli people. In the words of Rabin himself, before a joint meeting of Congress last year:

I have come from Jerusalem in the name of our children, who began their lives with great hope and are now names on graves and memorial stones, old pictures in albums, fading clothes in closets. Each year as I stand before the parents whose lips are chanting "Kaddish," the Jewish Memorial Prayer, ringing in my ears are the words of Archibald MacLeish who echoes the pleas of the young dead soldiers:

"They say: We leave you our deaths. Give them their meaning."

He continued:

Let us give them their meaning. Let us make them an end to bloodshed. Let us make true peace. Let us today be victorious in ending war.

The loss of Yitzhak Rabin casts a darkness on the world, but I believe his light will continue to shine.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. KENNEDY].

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult for me to come on the House floor today to talk about the loss that the world has felt as a result of the death of Yitzhak Rabin. With my children, I learned of the news on Saturday evening, and it brought back such a flood of memories of other times in our family's history and in this country's history.

Our hearts go out to the Rabin family and to the people of Israel, and to peace-loving people throughout the world, to recognize that yes, Yitzhak Rabin was a man who was a soldier for peace, who fought for his country, but nevertheless, who gave his life to preserve a peace for his country.

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And all of us that commit ourselves to trying to find peace for Israel find the inspiration in his life and what he stood for and for the caring that he continues to provide this world through his life and its meaning.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 4 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in paying tribute to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was gunned down in Jerusalem, November 4.

Prime Minister Rabin was an extraordinary leader. The story of his life is the story of the State of Israel: He served his people for more than 50 years: as a soldier, a diplomat, a politician, and finally a statesman. He was at the center of every major event in his country's brief history. He dedicated his life to Israel's security, survival and freedom:

As commander of the Harel Brigade, he helped to win Israel's 1948 war of independence;

As Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces, he planned and executed a quick victory over Arab armies that threatened Israel in 1967;

As Defense Minister, he worked to strengthen Israel's ability to defend against outside threats;

As Prime Minister, he pursued peace with Israel's former enemies, with the same fervor, dedication, and courage he had exhibited in war.

Yitzhak Rabin was a patriot. He was also a person of extraordinary strength and character. I was impressed by his honesty and his realism. He was not an ideologue or a romantic. He was direct. There was about him no pretense, no deception, no subterfuge.

Though a successful politician, he was also a nonpolitician: he had no use for the pomp and pretensions of high office. He did not do things just to stay in power. He did them because he was trying to build a peace.

Prime Minister Rabin developed close ties with the United States. He respected America's leadership role in

the world and acknowledged its efforts on behalf of Middle East peace. He was a close friend of every President since Lyndon Johnson, and those friendships helped create a unique bond between Israel and the United States. It is fair to say that no single leader in either country contributed more to this close and vital relationship.

Most of us will remember Yitzhak Rabin for what he achieved in the last years of his life. We will remember him, and we honor him today, for his dedication and his courage in the search for peace.

Yitzhak Rabin had a vision of Israel as both a Jewish state and a democratic nation. His policy toward the peace process grew directly out of that vision. He led his people toward an historic compromise with the Palestinians to share the land. He favored a policy of negotiation, including direct talks with the PLO and territorial concessions in exchange for real peace.

Yitzhak Rabin understood that military rule over the territories meant endless war and that subjugation of a people was contrary to Jewish tradition. He understood that annexing the territories would dilute the Jewish character of the State of Israel. He understood that a negotiated peace was the only solution.

Some of those who lavish praise on Yitzhak Rabin today are the same voices who, just days ago, sought to undermine the peace process.

We must be clear about what he stood for, and what he gave his life for: To honor Yitzhak Rabin is to support the peace process.

Let me quote from his final remarks, delivered at a peace rally in Jerusalem just four days ago:

I waged war as long as there was no chance for peace. I believe there is now a chance for peace, a great chance, and we must take advantage of it for those who are standing here, and for those who are not here—and there are many. I have always believed that the majority of the people want peace and are ready to take a chance for peace.

Violence erodes the basis of Israeli democracy. It should be condemned and wisely expunged and isolated. It is not the way of the state of Israel. . . .

Peace is not only in prayers . . . but it is the desire of the Jewish people.

This remarkable man led his country in war and in peace. His legacy stands for all of us to reflect on: A firm commitment, in the face of adversity, to security, democracy, and peace. The best tribute we can offer today to Yitzhak Rabin is to rededicate ourselves to a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] who also accompanied the Presidential delegation to Jerusalem.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, the death of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is a tragedy, not only for Israelis and Jews, but indeed for Americans and all those who strive for peace throughout the world.

The United States and Israel are partner in world affairs. As partners, we have built a foundation based on years of mutual respect and trust. Together, we share risks, rewards, and losses as we strive to make this world a better and safer place.

One of the rewards came just a month ago when Israel and the Palestinians signed the second phase of the Oslo accord. That document was the result of hard work and dedication to peace that was the hallmark of Prime Minister Rabin. Now, sadly we must share the loss of having him taken from us so prematurely and so violently. But sharing that loss makes the burden for both Israelis and Americans easier.

In the long run, I believe that those who resort to violence will find that it accomplishes little. Often, it spurs people on to completion of the task at hand, in this case peace in the Middle East.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., once said:

The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. * * * Returning violence multiplies violence and adds a deeper darkness to a night also devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

Mr. Speaker, I first met Prime Minister Rabin when he hosted a congressional delegation in Israel. I found him to be someone very special, someone who cared deeply about his country, cared deeply about world peace and making a difference.

I think what we can say about Prime Minister Rabin, while his work is not completed, it is up to those of us who are living to carry on his dream of making sure there is peace in the Middle East and making sure that we do the best as Americans and members of the world body to make sure that the world is a better place for our having made a mark in furtherance of his dreams and those that we all share.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. TORRICELLI].

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. Speaker, as we mourn the death of Yitzhak Rabin, we need as well to celebrate his life. Born of a Jewish family in a neighborhood of Palestine, he lived to see that neighborhood become a nation and those neighbors a people. As a young man, he was a common soldier. He lived to become a leader of one of the world's foremost fighting forces.

His life is woven through the fabric of what became a modern democracy, but mostly he achieved in his life what no Jewish family had been able to achieve in 2,000 years, because most certainly he once heard his mother pray, "Next year in Jerusalem." Jews have returned to Jerusalem, not simply during his life but because of his life. He lived to see that prayer achieved.

As the generations pass, many remember that as a soldier he made that

return possible. They need to recall as well that as a statesman, he made that return to Jerusalem permanent.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. HASTINGS].

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was one of the few people who do not just pass through this world, but enhance it. He was a brilliant strategist, a great thinker, a fierce warrior, a reluctant politician, a good diplomat, a pragmatist, and a visionary who spent his entire life working for the betterment of his country.

I am outraged that he was taken from us by a coward, by a pisher, by a hatred for his politics. I am heartbroken that he was murdered as he stood on the apex of his greatest success, gazing into the promised land of peace. I am saddened beyond words at his passing.

I am convinced that the escalation of violent rhetoric, the disintegration of civil political discourse, contributed to his death. I was recently viciously attacked for being critical of those who spew this kind of venom. But the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin has only reinforced my belief in what I said weeks ago. Words do matter. Disagreements with political leaders must be expressed at home in the voting booths, not by violence, effigies, and guns. And certainly not by manipulating the good intentions of the diaspora and well-meaning politicians across the ocean.

Yitzhak Rabin's sacrifices were not in vain. His goals, first to protect his land through war, and then maintain it through peace, are supported by the majority of Israelis and will be fulfilled. En route to the funeral I saw a sign held by a young girl. It said, "We knew war. Let's learn peace."

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Connecticut [Mrs. KENNELLY].

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, we have a resolution before us that does not address the loss of an idea, but the death of a man.

Two years ago, the world echoed the words of Yitzhak Rabin: "Enough of blood and tears. Enough." But a madman decided there would be more blood and tears. So today, we mourn Yitzhak. Another soldier has given his life for peace; another leader has given his life for his country.

We trusted Prime Minister Rabin's strength to guide the peace process. We knew that he, as a soldier, understood the costs and risks of war. We were inspired that this man of courage could become one of the greatest peacemakers the world has ever known.

So, this event shakes to its foundation our faith in reason and in humanity. And it contains a lesson for all

those who live in the world's democracies: Terrible dangers lurk at the extremes of politics.

As we pray for Yitzhak Rabin, his family, and the country of Israel that we all so love, we must also keep our own country in our prayers. The voices of reason must speak out louder. The lovers of peace must step forward to continue his great work, in the Middle and here at home.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Texas [Mr. DE LA GARZA].

Mr. DE LA GARZA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] for his kindness.

Mr. Speaker, I join all of my colleagues in extending our sympathies to the family of Prime Minister Rabin.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to inform my colleagues that in the city of McAllen, TX, Sunday evening there was a memorial service conducted by Rabbi Lipper of the Temple Emmanuel. I was honored and privileged to have been asked to give a part of the eulogy, since I knew the Prime Minister for many years. Mr. Speaker, I would like for my colleagues to know, the passing of Prime Minister Rabin is a loss to the world.

Mr. Speaker, it is a loss to all of those that honor and love peace. I think that we should continue, and his legacy should be that there shall be peace throughout the Middle East, and that there should be the recognition that Israel is a land and a people and a democracy, and that we instill in all of the people in that area that this should continue and that we truly achieve a peace where all can live as equals under one God who made us all, and that we make this the legacy of Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I join with all the Members and rise strongly to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 honoring slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. As an Israeli war hero, both during the war of independence in 1948 and also the 1967 war to unite the historic Israeli nation, he served his nation and was an inspiration to people all over the world.

Mr. Speaker, I met Prime Minister Rabin several times and I was impressed not only with his commitment and dedication to his nation's security, but also to the realization that peace was not only in the interest of the Palestinians, but also in the interest of the Israelis.

He, more than any person I think I have ever met, Mr. Speaker, exemplifies a verse in the Old Testament, Isaiah 2:4:

He will judge between nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. LOWEY].

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Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, just 11 days ago I joined with Yitzhak Rabin at the U.S. Capitol to celebrate Jerusalem's 3,000 anniversary. As I shook Prime Minister Rabin's hand to say goodbye, I said the words we all know so well: "Next year in Jerusalem."

Next year has come too soon. On Sunday I traveled to Jerusalem with a pain in my heart—a pain I know we all share.

Today we join with the Israeli people to commemorate the life of a great man. Yitzhak Rabin lived the life of the State of Israel. He fought for its independence, and he fought to keep it free and secure. He dedicated his life to the cause of creating and defending a homeland for the Jewish people.

To everything there is a season, Yitzhak Rabin said on the White House lawn. And when it was time for war, Yitzhak Rabin was the greatest of warriors. And when it was time for peace, Yitzhak Rabin was the greatest of peacemakers. With his own hands we waged war, and then, with his own hands, outstretched, he waged peace.

Of course Yitzhak Rabin did not choose peace because he loved Israel's former enemies. He chose peace because he loved Israel—as we all do.

And so today, let us rededicate ourselves to Yitzhak Rabin vision. Let us heed the words of one of Yitzhak Rabin's partners in peace, "Let us not keep silent. We are not ashamed, not are we afraid. Let our voices rise high to speak of our commitment to peace for all times to come."

Noa Ben-Artzi Philosof called her grandfather a pillar or fire, and so he was. May his spirit always shine brightly to show us the way.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. BERMAN].

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the shock that has a paralyzing effect on all of us and the sadness that envelopes us on learning of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin makes it difficult to express as eloquently as we would like our feelings at this particular time.

This man, who was such an integral part of the reestablishment of a Jewish homeland after 2,000 years and fighting for its survival and security and whose commitment, as the gentleman from Indiana mentioned earlier, to a democratic society in this Jewish homeland was so strong, he was the personification of the State of Israel.

I think it is interesting, if my colleagues would remember when he and King Hussein came here to speak to a joint session of Congress, his words at that time.

I have come from Jerusalem in the name of our children who began their lives with great hope and are now names on graves and memorial stones, old pictures in albums, fading clothes in closets. Each year as I stand before the parents whose lips are chanting

"Kaddish," the Jewish memorial prayer, ringing in my ears are the words of Archibald MacLeish who echoes the plea of the young dead soldiers: "They say we leave you our deaths, give them their meaning."

Let us give them meaning. Let us make an end to bloodshed. Let us make true peace. Let us today be victorious in ending war.

We all join in saluting the great life of Prime Minister Rabin and mourn his passage.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Missouri [Mr. EMERSON].

(Mr. EMERSON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chairman for yielding time to me.

I want to rise in strong support of the resolution before the House and to join my colleagues in expressing my profound sense of loss on the death, the tragic death of Prime Minister Rabin. He was a man of great vision and fortitude and character and leadership and peace. We do not see his likes too often. And that makes it all the more tragic when someone of his magnitude leaves us.

But I have every confidence that the kind of example that he set is going to be an inspiration to others and, notwithstanding the tragedy of this event, I am hopeful that great good may come from it by virtue of the fact that other people in leadership positions will emulate what he has done.

I want to extend my sympathy to his family, to his wife, his children, and his grandchildren.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from California [Mr. WAXMAN].

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Yitzhak Rabin, a great soldier, a great leader, a great man.

I was honored to be in Jerusalem on Monday and humbled by the outpouring of affection and respect for the Prime Minister. It was not long ago that Israel was unfairly treated by some as an outcast among nations; yet on Monday, delegations from around the world embraced Israel and joined her in mourning the terrible tragedy, the loss of Yitzhak Rabin. The community of nations did this in part because Prime Minister Rabin made it impossible not to.

When I think of the Prime Minister's contributions, I think of his vision, his resolve, his love of Israel, and his steadfast dedication to her secure future. Most of all I think of his courage, as a young man fighting for Israel's survival and, in later years, fighting for a just peace.

He understood that doing what is right would bring contempt from some and considerable risk. But he thought of the generations yet to come.

He knew that unless he gave leadership, his grandchildren, and all children—Arab and Israeli—faced a future fraught with peril.

It wasn't possible not to be moved by the words of those who spoke at his funeral. And I will always remember the thousands of peo-

ple lining the streets, filled with profound sadness and respect. Many told me that they felt comfort at seeing the outpouring of support from around the world.

But the greatest tribute is still to come. That tribute will be in Israel's continued commitment to the peace process and in our Nation's unwavering partnership and support.

My heartfelt wishes to Mrs. Rabin. May she and the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. STEARNS].

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who always fought when necessary, but only so that peace could be attained.

No one can claim that Yitzhak Rabin was not a warrior. Upon his graduation from high school he postponed his plans to study agriculture in the United States and instead joined the Jewish underground, which was then fighting for the very idea of independence and the existence of a Jewish homeland.

Yitzhak Rabin spent the rest of his life as a soldier, leading the men and women of the resistance, and eventually the Israeli military. Through battle after battle with the Arab countries of the region and molding the Israeli Defense Forces into one of the best trained and most motivated forces in the world; first as Israel's Army Chief of Staff, later as the Minister of Defense, and finally as Prime Minister.

Along the way he saw his friends and allies die. In one battle during the Arab-Israeli war of 1968, the Brigade he commanded lost close to 70 percent of its membership while fighting to relieve Jerusalem, the city of his birth, and to reopen supply lines with the Israeli forces in Tel Aviv. Today you can see the remains of this battalion as a memorial to the men who lost their lives in this struggle. But eventual victory was assured, as long as men like Yitzhak Rabin fought on.

These were the actions of a man who knew the value of a free and secure Israel. To further this dream, he knew a lasting peace would eventually have to be reached with Israel's Arab community as well as with the surrounding Arab nations. In 1992, while serving his first term as Prime Minister, he began the steady progress toward peace that earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994. It was in a speech here in Washington, DC, in 1993 that Mr. Rabin said, "We are destined to live together on the same soil in the same land. We, the soldiers who have returned from battles stained with blood; we who have seen our relatives and friends killed before our eyes; * * * We who have fought against you, the Palestinian's, we say to you in a loud and clear voice: Enough of blood and tears. Enough!"

Last weekend's tragedy, the first assassination of an Israeli Prime Minister, ended one life. But it cannot end the dream that Yitzhak Rabin's life

stood for: a free and secure Israel, at peace with itself and the world.

The Bible has an appropriate verse which describes our memory of Prime Minister Rabin and with which I would like to conclude, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." We should all remember Mr. Rabin; a warrior when necessary and a peacemaker when possible for his people and for all of Israel.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from West Virginia [Mr. RAHALL].

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, a man of war, a man of peace, I think that most succinctly describes Yitzhak Rabin, the man we eulogize today. Only a man of his background and commitment could bring Israel to make the bold and courageous steps for peace so necessary in recent years.

I recall meeting with Yitzhak Rabin in his office in Jerusalem the early part of this past June in which he gave graciously of his time and patience, I might add, for spirited discussion of the peace process, especially as it relates to Israel's northern neighbor and the land of my grandfathers, Lebanon.

I recall watching both he and the king of Jordan light each other's cigarettes just off the floor of this body following their speeches to a historic joint session of Congress.

These two soldiers of war and soldiers of peace had it right when they said, The peace process must survive. It is now time for all religious fanatics on all sides to stop the killing in the Middle East and to realize that the peace process must now be strengthened. Those who fuel the flames by their hotheaded rhetoric to satisfy these enemies of peace, including in this body, should pay the real tribute to Yitzhak Rabin and his family by supporting the peacemakers.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. ROEMER].

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, it is a very difficult job to try to console someone like Mrs. Leah Rabin in this difficult hour. It is very difficult to match the eloquence of President Clinton with his words eulogizing this great leader.

It is difficult to match King Hussein's strength and commitment to the peace process and his words in Jerusalem. And it is impossible to better articulate what Noa Ben-Artzi Philosofo, the granddaughter of Mr. Rabin, said in such moving words about her love for the leadership of her grandfather.

I would say that two of the things that I will just humbly attempt to cite, which were inspirational about Mr. Rabin that we will miss in Israel, in the Middle East, and America is that right now in politics there is a vacuum for leadership and courage. Mr. Rabin would never think of licking his fingers

to the wind and testing where public attitudes were on issues. He was a wind tunnel of strength for looking at where in a visionary sense his country should go for the best interests of later generations. And in this peace process, he was willing to risk everything to lead his people toward this vision of courage.

Second, I think he teaches us in death that in a democracy, whether it be Israel or the United States, that the people in a democracy have a commitment to speak up for a policy that they believe in or that they disagree with, that they cannot afford to remain silent or on the sidelines.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. SCHUMER].

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member from Indiana for yielding time to me.

I want to raise my voice in support of this resolution and in praise of Yitzhak Rabin. He was a model, a model of peace and a model of strength and a model of resoluteness. Whether one agreed with Prime Minister Rabin or not, one knew one thing: He did what he believed.

In an age of conventional politicians across the world, you never saw Yitzhak Rabin putting his finger to the wind. Rather, he made up his mind and he did the right thing. As a military man, he was sometimes accused of being too tough, as after Lebanon. As a Prime Minister, he was accused of being too soft. But Yitzhak Rabin had only one thing at heart throughout his career, and that was the State of Israel and the Jewish people who lived in Israel.

□ 1230

He is a model for all of us, whatever our background, religion, or nationality, and our condolences to Leah Rabin and the Rabin family.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LEWIS], who also joined us in the congressional delegation to Jerusalem.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a fallen soldier, a warrior, a warrior for peace * * * Yitzhak Rabin.

Today our condolences and our hearts go out to the people and friends of Israel, the Rabin family, and lovers of peace.

Prime Minister Rabin was a great man, a great statesman and a great peacemaker. He lived his life protecting the people of Israel and gave his life trying to bring an end to the cycle of violence that has plagued his nation. He was a warrior for peace and that will be his legacy. No assassin's bullet can extinguish the flame, the dream, that Yitzhak Rabin ignited in the hearts and minds of his people. Yitzhak Rabin may no longer be with us, but his dream for a safe, secure Israel, an Israel at peace with itself and its neighbors, lives on.

We have all lost a great leader, a great man * * * a man of peace. Bless him.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY].

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, over the last 21 years I came to have a tremendous amount of professional respect and personal affection for Yitzhak Rabin. I remember after Camp David having a conversation with Anwar Sadat, and I asked him whether or not Camp David in his view represented a separate peace between Egypt and Israel or whether it would represent the first step in a comprehensive settlement. He said to me, "Well, it had better be the latter because, if it isn't, I'll be dead within 5 years," and he was.

Mr. Speaker, the last time I talked to Yitzhak Rabin he told me that without peace there was no real security for Israel, and he expressed his frustrations that his political opponents were lobbying this Congress to get in the way of the Israeli Government's efforts to move the peace process forward. Two days ago in Israel, at Mr. Rabin's funeral, a key member of the Knesset said to me, "We have our necks out a mile. Is it too much to ask that Congress stay out of the way?" He said, "You must understand we have to help the Palestinians to make their elections work so that we have something real to build on."

Rabin and Peres in Israel, Sadat of Egypt, John Hume of Northern Ireland, they and people like them risk their lives and their careers routinely to bring the security of peace to their people. The best tribute to Yitzhak Rabin on this floor will not be our words. It will be our actions in either furtherance of or in obstruction of the cause which he gave his life for and risked his life for on almost a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, I will miss Mr. Rabin both professionally and personally. He was one of the most dedicated and determined, and yet calm, men I have ever had the privilege to know in my life. I think he will truly go down as one of the great men who all of us have had the privilege to know.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN].

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, being at the funeral on Monday was one of the most moving and troubling experiences in my life. The murder of Yitzhak Rabin was a personal, and national, and an international tragedy. The national aspects were so well, so well spoken, at the funeral, as were the international aspects, by King Hussein, and President Mubarak, and President Clinton.

But those of us who were there and those who listened also were struck by the personal aspects. The granddaughter reminded the murderer and

the world that when he murdered the Prime Minister he not only killed a great statesman, a great leader, but a grandfather.

What is there left for us to do? To grieve and to recommit ourselves to peace and the battle against extremism.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from California [Ms. HARMAN].

(Ms. HARMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was proud to know Yitzhak Rabin, who served his country superbly and simultaneously in dual roles as Prime Minister—and chief peace-maker—and Minister of Defense—and Commander-in-Chief. I was honored to be part of the Congressional delegation to his extraordinarily moving state funeral.

The major figures of the Arab world made their first trips to Israel to attend the Rabin funeral, perhaps the best tribute to the impact of the man we mourn. Our large American delegation was seated behind them, and I took strange comfort gazing over the Arab headgear to the plain, flag-draped coffin.

King Hussein's remarks were so moving. He called Rabin his brother and friend, and spoke of his own legacy as achieving peace for all the world's children—not just Jordan's. Back at the King David Hotel following the ceremony, our delegation encountered the King, sitting on the terrace gazing at the old city—his first gaze in 42 years since he witnessed the assassination of his grandfather.

At the Western Wall, our delegation toured the newly excavated tunnels around the Second Temple. Our guide pointed out that the Second Temple fell because Jews began to fight Jews. The air was redolent with the unasked question: Would this—Jerusalem's rebirth and the best chance for peace in the history of the Middle East—come apart because, once again, Jew is fighting Jew?

I pray not, and urge passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 which pays tribute to one of the world's great leaders and reaffirms America's support for the peace process.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado [Mr. SKAGGS].

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] for yielding me the time.

As we all mourn the tragic death of Yitzhak Rabin, let us also take a moment to celebrate his extraordinary life, to express a profound and abiding gratitude for what he was able to do during his days on this Earth, for that wonderful gravelly voice that always carried a kind of palpable wisdom with it, for his courage, courage defined as always being willing to take real risk for a greater good, in his case enormous political risk for the greater good

of a lasting peace. He was not only a great leader for Israel, but for all of us who seek a world of security and stability and decency.

Mr. Speaker, we express our deep sympathy and respect to the family of Prime Minister Rabin, to the brave people of Israel as they struggle forward. In our sadness we must also keep faith with Yitzhak Rabin's determined mission. We all have a responsibility now to come together to persevere in his name and in his honored memory to complete Yitzhak Rabin's journey to peace.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. MALONEY].

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, a beautiful and sad teenage girl captured the attention of the world as she spoke softly in Hebrew.

The simple eloquent speech of Yitzhak Rabin's granddaughter Noa broke our hearts.

And Prime Minister Rabin's death breaks our hearts and tries to break our spirit.

The man who fought to create the State of Israel, led Israel to victory in bitter wars, and was leading his nation down the difficult path of peace, is gone.

But the Yitzhak Rabin who did all this would not want our spirits to be broken.

If only he could have seen the historic gathering Monday in Jerusalem: Former Arab enemies wept alongside Leah Rabin; dozens of countries which once had no use for Israel sent their Heads of State to his grave; the President of the United States spoke as movingly as if he had lost his brother.

The legacy of Yitzhak Rabin is a State of Israel that is strong, secure, and welcomed in the community of nations.

The best way to honor his memory is to ensure that his beloved nation can live and prosper in peace.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Florida [Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN], chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Rabin came as a shock to all of us. We almost considered him an irreplaceable leader in the search for a lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors.

Rabin's death reminds us that sometimes the greatest physical and moral courage is not to be found among those who make war, but among those who seek to make peace. Fortunately, Israel is a democracy whose government's policies are not the whim of only one man. And, although we mourn the loss of a courageous leader, we can be comforted by the fact that the goals he set for himself and his country are

goals that are widely shared in Israel and they will continue to be pursued.

Perhaps the greatest monument that could be erected to Prime Minister Rabin would be for all of us to renew our own efforts to erect a structure of peace that can bring genuine security and peace to the people of Israel and to all of its neighbors.

We simply cannot allow fanatics—be it those who killed Egyptian President Anwar Sadat or the young man who has been arrested for the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin—to determine what the future of Israel and the Middle East shall be. We must move forward toward our goal of a lasting peace and a secure Israel.

This process has already produced benefits. And those benefits were there for all to see at Prime Minister Rabin's funeral. We have seen Israel and Jordan successfully negotiate a peace treaty. King Hussein of Jordan attended Rabin's funeral—something that would have seemed impossible just a couple of years ago—and vow publicly, "we are not ashamed, nor are we afraid, nor are we anything but determined to conclude the legacy for which my friend fell."

We have seen the ending of some boycotts of Israel by the countries in the gulf, and I think it is important that ministers from two gulf countries had the courage to attend the Rabin funeral. Let us build on this and make Israel our strong ally.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA].

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege for me to share with my colleagues and the American people the recent tragic event that took the life of one of the great leaders of the world and certainly of his native homeland, the state of Israel.

Mr. Speaker, for generations to come the name of Yitzhak Rabin will be enshrined in the hearts and minds of the men, women, and children of Israel. He was an outstanding warrior of the highest order, and a great man—because he also was a peacemaker. Truly the Almighty could not have said it better, Mr. Speaker, when he said, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God."

Yitzhak Rabin is honored foremost not for his leadership as a warrior and soldier, but as a peacemaker. On behalf of the American Samoan people we extend our fondest alofa, shalom, peace be with you, to the last Prime Minister Rabin, Mrs. Rabin, their children, and family.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. MANZULLO], a member of our Committee on International Relations.

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Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I spoke at the Temple Beth El in Rockford a few nights ago and would like to share those same thoughts with my colleagues this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the United States Congress, I had the rare opportunity to meet Yitzhak Rabin in the recent past. I recall a man of great intensity, and as he spoke in his baritone voice, my colleagues and I were mesmerized. A photographer captured my meeting with Yitzhak Rabin, and that photo hangs proudly in my office in Washington. As you peered into his deep-set eyes, it was apparent he was the consummate warrior and the ultimate peacemaker.

Yitzhak Rabin was the warrior who helped Israel become a nation in 1948, the warrior who led Israel against insurmountable odds in the Six Day War, the warrior who knew he had to rely on God's strength to protect his tiny nation. He persevered only because he believed that the cause of Israel was greater than Israel itself; a cause for freedom for all people who had been oppressed.

And Yitzhak Rabin was the peacemaker, the one who saw Israel's role in the world from the perspective of a lasting peace. The warrior was tired of fighting and turned his energies to making peace.

I met those whom he had touched deeply: King Hussein of Jordan and Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. They respected Rabin because of his strength. He was a strong man—strong at age 73—strong in his beliefs for free Israel and strong in his convictions for a lasting peace in the Middle East. They respected him because he respected them.

They're gone now: Moshe Dayan, Menachem Begin, Golda Meir, David Ben Gurion. Now, the only native-born Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, has gone to rest.

At the funeral service Monday in Israel, King Hussein was visibly moved. Who would have thought we would have seen that happen in our lifetime, a once bitter enemy shaken by the loss of a comrade in peace?

And Rabin's granddaughter, who is preparing to go into the military, as do all young people in Israel, said, "as a pillar of light led our people through the wilderness, my grandfather led me, and who will lead me now?"

His memory leads us now. The memory of one who fought for peace, and who died for peace.

We honor the warrior turned peacemaker, the one who had the courage to believe the sons of Hagar and Sarah would someday reconcile, the one who believed Isaiah: "and he will judge between the nations, and will render decisions for many peoples. And they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they learn war."

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. POSHARD].

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, over 2,500 years ago, a great prophet of Israel, Habakkuk, looked around and saw the violence and the war that wracked his nation, and he asked this question: "How long, Lord? How long before the violence ends and the peace reigns?" The Lord answered, as recorded in the Holy Scriptures, in the book of Habakkuk: "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it, for the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end, it will speak and it will not lie; though it tarries, wait for it, because it will surely come."

Prime Minister Rabin's struggle, his vision for peace, will be rewarded. The peace will come; though it tarries, it will come.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. MENENDEZ], a member of our Committee on International Relations.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, it goes without saying that America and Israel share much in common. Both countries are built on a fierce commitment to freedom, democracy, and liberty. Both nations are heroic reactions to prejudice and oppression. And both nations know all too well, the price that must be paid for holding true to an ideal.

Yet another one of those shared experiences is that we are both relatively new nations. We measure our history as countries in decades rather than millennia. But compared to even the United States, the modern state of Israel is a sapling in the world forest.

I touch on this because, as Americans it may be hard for us to imagine Yitzhak Rabin's place in modern Israel's brief history. To give an American a proper perspective, imagine being witness as George Washington was gunned down by a mad Tory.

It is, in fact, a fair and historically accurate comparison to mention Rabin and Washington in the same breath. Patriot soldiers who helped forge a nation, then went on to become elected leaders of the very nation they fought for so bravely. Seeing Rabin and Washington as comrades may shed some light on why this tragedy touches Israel and the rest of the world so deeply.

Yitzhak Rabin earned our respect with his deeds. We were willing to follow him on the path to peace because we knew that he had marched down the road of conflict. Simply put, we trusted him to win the peace because he had been trusted to win the wars.

One of my most meaningful privileges as a Member of Congress is that I was able to work with Prime Minister Rabin. As a member of the International Relations Committee I met with him in Israel and then, back in Washington just a few weeks ago. He was a true leader who inspired cooperation with his honesty, his courage, and his deeds.

Prime Minister Rabin was well aware of the risks to Israel and to himself in trying to make peace. But he understood that the risk of not making peace is far greater. Perhaps because he was a soldier, perhaps because he was a patriot, perhaps because he was a father and a grandfather, perhaps because of all of those things, Yitzhak Rabin knew that peace is the most universal of all goals.

And as Americans, we were proud to stand with him in the quest for a just, fair, and permanent peace in the Middle East. This tragedy will not make us waver in that noble pursuit. We are committed to his goals. The doubters will quickly come to understand what Rabin knew in his soul—that peace is stronger than any gun.

Yitzhak Rabin was indeed a 20th century George Washington. And as was said of Washington, it can be said of Rabin:

"First in war.

"First in peace.

"First in the hearts of his countrymen."

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. GEJDENSON].

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, all of us in this country and across the globe send our thoughts and our compassion to the Rabin family, but those of us involved in the politics of our Nation need to learn from Yitzhak Rabin's courage; not the courage to stand up to lunatics with guns, that is a different kind of courage, which he obviously also had, but the courage to stand up in a very tough political climate.

The most difficult thing for politicians is to stand up to an angry and vocal group of their own constituency. For those of us in this Congress, we see it on a daily basis. We have freedom of speech in this country, as they do in Israel. Oftentimes that speech is fiery and poisoned, the price that was paid by Yitzhak Rabin for all too many good people sitting by silently, as those who condemned him for engaging in the peace process, for those who stood by and did not join with him in speaking out in favor of peace.

In this country we have many voices that are extreme, that feel they too get their directions directly from on high. This democracy survives not just by its laws, but by the accommodation of thoughts, by the ability to come to this Chamber and have a dialogue. The extremism that exists in our land threatens our democracy, as that lone gunman threatened the life of Yitzhak Rabin. The peace process will continue. It will thrive. All of those in this Chamber and across the globe will understand how critical it is, and must not let their voices be muted. We must continue that effort.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. YATES].

Mr. YATES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York very much for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, my time in Congress is almost the same as Israel's birth and growth. I was elected to the House for the first time in November 1948. Israel became a Nation in May 1948. I have known all of its leaders and Ambassadors to the United States, including Yitzhak Rabin with whom I established a firm friendship when he became Ambassador to the United States in 1965. We became close friends.

He was one of the giants of Israel, one of the long line who had developed Israel into the splendid nation it is today: Ben Gurion, Levi Eshkol, Golda Meir, Moshe Dayan, and the other stalwarts of that great State.

Yitzhak Rabin's contributions to Israel in peace and war were among the greatest in Israel's history. He had the courage to press for peace with his Arab neighbors over the objections and the extreme hostility of Arabs and Israelis both. His death, of course, will be an immense loss to the peace which he sought, and toward which he had done so much. In his memory, the peace process should bring Israelis and Arabs closer to the bargaining table to seek the peace for which Yitzhak Rabin gave his life.

Addie and I extend our profound sympathy to Leah and the Rabin family, whose courage and dignity have been an inspiration to the world.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio [Mr. STOKES].

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Florida, for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in this Chamber in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31. This resolution condemns the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and extends our deepest sympathy to his family and the people of Israel.

The hearts of Americans are heavy and laden with grief. We join the Government and people of Israel in mourning the tragic loss of Prime Minister Rabin. The world pauses to pay final tribute to a leader whose last mission was a quest for peace.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said that Yitzhak Rabin dedicated his life to Israel's rebirth, its security, and its freedom. He was a soldier who led troops during Israel's war of independence. When he was elected Prime Minister, Mr. Rabin was able to forge a close relationship with the United States and other allies in the pursuit of peace in the Middle East.

Yitzhak Rabin was a warrior who came to believe the time had come to seek peace. He believed it in his heart, and he spent his days leading the nation of Israel toward that ultimate goal. In 1993, the eyes of the world turned to Washington, DC, as Prime Minister Rabin and PLO leader Yasser Arafat pledged a bond of peace between Israel and the Palestine people. Prime Minister Rabin harbored no hatred as he said:

We have come to try to put an end to the hostilities so that our children, our children's children, will no longer experience the painful costs of war, violence and terror.

Mr. Speaker, the voice of Prime Minister Rabin has been silenced. But I am convinced that his quest and his longing for peace will be fulfilled. Those of us who are committed to peace realize the dangers when you dedicate your life to that goal. Here in America, the assassinations of President Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., took from our midst other great men who were committed to peace and understanding.

The healing process that America has undergone far too often now confronts our friends in the Middle East. We stand aligned with our neighbors as they confront this challenge. Prime Minister Rabin died in the quest for peace. It is our responsibility to continue that quest with even greater commitment and urgency. This would be the greatest testament to the memory of Yitzhak Rabin.

During my tenure in the U.S. Congress, and throughout my life, I have enjoyed a close relationship with members of the Jewish community. On their behalf, and on behalf of the entire 11th Congressional District, we offer our condolences to the family of Prime Minister Rabin. We offer our support to the people and Government of Israel in this time of great loss.

Mr. Speaker, as we gather today to pay tribute to Prime Minister Rabin, I am reminded of the words of acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres who said,

*** I know a deep mourning has fallen on Israel, on our people, our neighbors, because he was a rare leader in our nation, and a rare leader in our world. When I look at the map of world leaders, I see no one who worked with greater resolve, skill, devotion and self-sacrifice than Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. Speaker, hatred has, indeed, taken from our midst the dreamer. We cannot and will not allow hatred to end the dream.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 2 minutes to my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. ENGEL], who was a member of the presidential delegation that went to the funeral of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from Florida, for yielding time to me. We had a lot of conversation on that plane. We did not sleep very much, but those of us that were privileged to be part of the official American delegation to Israel for the tragic funeral of Prime Minister Rabin will remember it and cherish it for the rest of our lives.

Mr. Speaker, when we arrived in Israel, we were given two badges. These were the badges we wore, which said that we were part of the official delegation and allowed us to get into the cemetery. What I saw in Israel, and I have been to Israel many, many times, what I saw in Israel was nothing that I have ever seen: throngs of people crowding each street corner, throngs of

people crowding as the motorcades went by, as our bus went by, into the cemetery; people lighting memorial candles, people holding vigils, people holding signs. It was just something that will live with me for the rest of my life.

I was proud. We had 15 Senators and 19 House Members there as part of the official delegation. Although, again, I have been to Israel many times, and I feel so strongly about enhancing the United States-Israel alliance, which is a vital alliance for both countries and a good, strong alliance, I think that this time in Israel, short as it was—36 hours, and we did not even have a chance to sleep; we were there, we ran around, we came back—I think this trip had the most meaning for me.

Mr. Speaker, I was privileged and proud to know Yitzhak Rabin for many, many years. I was privileged and proud to call him my friend. I was privileged and proud to watch him, watch him grow, watch him change, in an evolutionary change. He fought on the battlefield and was a soldier in war when he felt that was the way to protect his nation, but he became a soldier for peace, understanding that peace was the only way to go, and the best way to ensure the security of his nation.

Let me say to my dear friend Yitzhak Rabin, "We will miss you, but we will never forget you. All of us will try to emulate you. Peace, shalom. That is the most important thing."

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California [Ms. PELOSI].

(Ms. PELOSI asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in praise of Yitzhak Rabin, in sadness over his passing, and in support of the resolution today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31, which extends the deepest sympathy of this Congress to the family of Prime Minister Rabin and to the people of Israel. The world lost a great man on November 4, when an assassin's bullets took from our midst a true leader.

The eulogies for Yitzhak Rabin have been eloquent and heartfelt. His credentials, his accomplishments, his dedication, and his vision have been lauded by leaders around the world. Listening to these somber words of praise and mourning, of shock and grief, of public and personal memory, I have been struck by the resonance of this loss across diverse populations, across communities and across nations. It is not only the people of Israel who are mourning Prime Minister Rabin's tragic, untimely, and violent death. They have been joined in their grief by people around the world. This loss struck a chord.

I have thought deeply about how Yitzhak Rabin touched so many people. He was great in many ways. What stands out about Yitzhak Rabin, to me, what elevates him so far above the rest, was his courage to change. After pursuing one vision, the vision of the warrior, for

the majority of his life, Yitzhak Rabin recognized, and then acted on his recognition, that the way to the future was through peace, not through war. He had the courage to change and through that courage, changed the course of the world.

The day that the peace agreement was signed on the White House lawn, Yitzhak Rabin proved that there is no conflict too old, too entrenched, or too deep to be resolved. His work and his handshake demonstrated that negotiations and compromise can produce results. He gave impetus to participants in other longstanding conflicts to start talking to their opponents; he gave hope to the victims of conflict that peace is possible.

Above all else, Prime Minister Rabin was a realist. He knew that proving peace was possible did not prove that peace was easy. His assassination is a tragic example of how difficult the pursuit for peace can be.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island [Mr. REED].

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, on July 26, 1994, Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister and Defense Minister of the State of Israel, addressed the United States Congress. These are his words on that day:

Each year, on Memorial Day, for the Fallen of Israel's war, I go to the cemetery of Mount Herzl in Jerusalem, facing me are the graves, headstones, the colorful flowers blooming on them, and thousands of pairs of weeping eyes. I stand there, in front of that large, silent crowd, and read in their eyes the words of, "The Young Dead Soldiers," as a famous American poet, Archibald MacLeish, entitled the poem from which I take these lines:

They say;
Whether our lives and our deaths
were for peace and a new hope,
we cannot say;
it is you who must say this.

□ 1300

Today Yitzhak Rabin is among the fallen on Mount Herzl. He has given us his life; we must give it meaning. We must labor and live so that his life and death stands for peace and a new hope.

Prime Minister Rabin closed his remarks with an ancient blessing and a continuing plea for peace. Again, in his words: Blessed are you, oh, Lord, who has preserved us and sustained us and enabled us to reach this time. God bless the peace.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. JACKSON-LEE].

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. HASTINGS], and I rise to support this resolution in honor of Prime Minister Rabin and offer to those of us who would reflect how telling it is to hear that in the glaring headlines of the Israeli papers we have the family of the alleged perpetrator acknowledging the tragedy of this incident and the hopelessness that they feel, and asking for forgiveness. We can

forgive but we must learn that violent talk can also bring about violent deeds.

The headlines rang out across this Nation over the weekend, but one that was more telling than any was one that said "Muslims, Christians and Jews share a prayer for the same, an uneasy peace."

We in America know about an uneasy peace, for we have been caught up in the turmoil of an assassination of President John F. Kennedy who rose in this Nation to speak of values of unity and unification, and we experienced sadly the short life of Dr. Martin Luther King, who himself was a promoter of peace. Therefore, I applaud and salute Prime Minister Rabin who after experiencing the tragedy of war embraced the idea that this world is better off if he spoke for peace and worked for peace even if there was those detractors who spoke violently against peace. Prime Minister Rabin risked his life and braved his enemies to stand up for peace for Israel and peace for the world.

So I come today to say that peace will prevail, peace will survive, for Prime Minister Rabin was a freedom fighter who turned his eyes toward being a fighter for peace. His life was one that reflected a sense of understanding that it was better to send home the military boys and girls of our families in Israel and the Arab world, in this Nation whole and in one complete piece. This can be done if we pay tribute to Prime Minister Rabin by our action to secure peace in the Mideast.

So this headline of "Muslims, Christians and Jews share a prayer for the same, an uneasy peace," should result in more than prayer, we should make peace happen.

To Mrs. Rabin and her family my deepest regret, I am privileged to have met him. But the words of his granddaughter captured his life better than others. She said "no one knows the caress that you placed on my shoulder and the warm hug that you saved only for us." I would simply add.

Shalom, peace, let us maintain peace in his name.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 to honor the legacy of slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. I was extremely shocked and saddened when I heard the news that he had been killed. His life, which mirrored the life of the State of Israel, was committed to establishing security for his people and a lasting peace for the Middle East.

As a military leader, Mr. Rabin was a giant; he fought for the Independence of his country and was the Israeli Military Chief of Staff during the Six Day War in 1967. As a peacemaker, Mr. Rabin worked to establish a relationship with the Palestinians and signed Israel's second peace treaty, with Jordan.

Throughout history, many have given their lives in the pursuit of peace: Gandhi, John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, Anwar Sadat, and now, sadly, Yitzhak Rabin. Mr. Rabin's death should not be the end of his vision of a lasting peace for the Middle East. As was evident by those who attended his funeral on

Monday, the peace process is on a course that cannot be stopped. And, the United States should do all that it can to make sure that the process continues.

As the U.S. Representative for the 18th District of Texas, I am the caretaker of the Mickey Leland Kibbutz program. This program takes young people from Houston, and sends them to Israel. Ideas and cultural attitudes are exchanged. It is in this spirit of cooperation and peace that Yitzhak Rabin's dream will continue. The American/Israeli relationship is unflappable. The United States must, and will continue to support Israel and its people in their quest to live free from war and bloodshed.

During my last visit to Israel, I was struck by the similarities between our two peoples. We are both committed to democracy and free expression, to personal liberty, and to the pursuit of happiness. It is because of these similarities that the United States must continue to be Israel's strongest ally. We must stand by Israel and the Israeli people in this time of need.

Let us not let Yitzhak Rabin's murder be the ending of one man's vision. Let us make it the catalyst in a new, lasting commitment to bring to fruition Mr. Rabin's vision of a Middle East with open borders, peaceful and free. This must be our commitment, it must be our duty.

I say to the people of Israel, we will stand behind you. We will not forsake you. The peace process must be expedited. The days of death and bloodshed will end. Yitzhak Rabin's life has ended, but his dream lives on.

Peace, Shalom.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES].

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, blessed are the peacemakers; and the Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin, was truly one of this century's great peacemakers. To his family and to all Israelis, in fact to all Americans who came to know and honor this great man, I rise in support of this resolution.

Let us take this opportunity as well to embrace heartily the peace process and our hope that all parties in this peace process will move forward in the name of the Prime Minister, and that the Syrians and the Palestinians and all of those who want a stable and lasting peace for all of the people of the Middle East will take this opportunity in memory of the slain Prime Minister to wholeheartedly embrace the process, to live by the tenets of the Oslo accords and to once and for all bring stability to this vital and strategic area of the world.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. DEUTSCH], my friend and colleague.

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I, too, today join my colleagues in rising in support of this resolution.

I had the honor to meet and interact with Yitzhak Rabin probably at least a dozen times. The last time I was in Is-

rael I knew I was going to have an opportunity to spend some time with him, and I read his autobiography on the plane over to Israel, and his autobiography in a sense is really almost a history of the modern State of Israel.

From the time of a young man in his early twenties being the commander of the Hagana and Palmach troops that defended and really secured the existence of Jerusalem for the Jewish State, going on from the 1948 through 1967 war when he commanded Israeli defense forces into his first term as Prime Minister, his life truly is the life of the modern State of Israel.

Any death is a tragedy, and the tragedy that we see here is of untold, indescribable proportions. Brothers killing brothers. I think everyone in the world feels that pain. The pain that we feel is not just for the family, and we feel that pain, but really for the future as well.

Because those of us who know and understand some of Jewish history know that there has been brother killing brother that has destroyed prior States of Israel, and our hopes and our prayers is that that is not what this is about, but this is the act of a crazed one person, and that is the only act, and it is not tidings of worse things to come.

Many people who have been in this Chamber on a daily basis do not acknowledge or do not realize that right above us, actually straight in the center of us, is a wreath of Moses who looks down on us every day in this U.S. Congress, and for those who are watching on C-SPAN I would ask them when they come to Congress, and even those in the gallery can look.

I, too, know that God looks on us in our presence and through his help and strength that his will will be done in the future.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Florida [Mr. MICA].

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, I did not know Prime Minister Rabin well, but I had an opportunity, like many of you, to hear him. I remember 2 years ago I stood on the White House lawn and saw that famous handshake that he said was so rare, but he felt should be so common, of people coming together, and we praised him then for his peace efforts.

I had the opportunity to join Chairman GILMAN and other Members of the new majority also in a bipartisan effort and flew to Jerusalem earlier this year; and we reassured the Prime Minister and other leaders that we were committed to peace, his peace efforts in the Middle East; and we lauded him at that time. But I got to see him firsthand; and I saw a tough man, a firm man, but a gentleman. Again, I did not know him that well, but I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to discuss peace with him and his efforts.

Then we heard not too long ago his admonition that the land of milk and honey should not be a river of tears

and blood, and all of us listened, and we heard him again appeal to the Middle East and to the world for peace.

So we saw a man who was drawn into war, but who worked for peace, and he taught us a lesson, a lesson that we should be thankful for and remember toward world peace. Be prepared for war, but, in fact, that we should all work for peace. He will be missed by myself and many others who have had a brief opportunity to work with him, but we will work toward his legacy, and that legacy was one of peace.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois [Mr. RUSH], my friend and colleague.

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, as an individual who has dedicated his life to fighting for a better understanding of and more harmonious relationships between all the people of the world, regardless of their race, religion, or ethnic background, I was particularly wounded and shocked by the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin.

I had the unique opportunity to meet with Yitzhak Rabin 3 months ago when I visited Israel for the first time. It was through this unique visit that I had an opportunity to meet with Mr. Rabin. In his presence, I was immediately put at ease by his earthy style and his folksy, one might even say, laid back demeanor. I recognized his straightforward approach and his direct response to questions posed to him. I recognized an extraordinarily courageous man whose nobility was not camouflaged nor bolstered by pretense, pomp, or circumstance. I was particularly impressed with the strength that he displayed on the question of Hebron. The success of the peace process was paramount to this warrior for peace.

Yitzhak Rabin epitomized the phrase "an ordinary man who accomplished extraordinary things."

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. ACKERMAN], my friend and colleague.

(Mr. ACKERMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN] and the gentleman from Florida [Mr. HASTINGS] for bringing this to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in the strongest of support for this resolution. Almost 2 months ago, I was asked to speak during a synagogue service in New York about the hopes and dreams of both the American and Israeli people for an enduring and secure peace.

The assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last Saturday night cut to the very heart of those hopes and dreams.

During my remarks, I shared the profound experience I had with another assassination. I talked about how I rushed from school to my mother's apartment in Flushing when I heard the news that President Kennedy had been shot. We were part of an America that feared that we had lost our hopes and our dreams.

Flying to Israel for the funeral of another great leader gunned down for his beliefs and principals, I wondered whether Israel and its people would itself fall into hopelessness.

On Monday morning, the day of Mr. Rabin's funeral, my question was answered. There was despair, but there was hope as well. There was hope, because you cannot kill dreams with bullets. That hope was rekindled by the sight of presidents, prime ministers and ambassadors, who gathered atop Mount Herzl in Jerusalem from places across our planet. That hope was strengthened by the sight of international leaders wearing yarmulkes and listening to the recitation of Kaddish, the Jewish mourner's prayer. By the sight of Islamic leaders wearing Kafias. That hope was rejuvenated by the vision of former enemies gathered between Israeli flags unfurled in a soft breeze at the foot of the coffin of a former enemy-general, now felled in the war for peace.

And despite the nightmare of this assassination, the dream of peace was sustained, and even strengthened, at the extraordinary sight of Egypt's President Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein reaching out to console the widow of a slain Israeli Prime Minister. The King calling her his sister, just as they have reached out to console the widows of their own citizens lost in the futility of the wars of the past.

The world must learn from this horrible deed. We must learn that words have consequences. That fundamentalist zealots on all sides are not part of any legitimate debate, and that those who encourage them have joined with the forces of darkness. And that real dialog is necessary.

Mr. Chairman, we honor the memory of Prime Minister Rabin by staying the course, and continuing our quest for a secure peace.

Mr. Speaker, the world has lost a leader. Many of us have lost a friend. But I am certain that the United States and Israel will continue to build on the hopes and dreams of both our people.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard expressions of support and deep sympathy for the Prime Minister now departed. We have also heard sympathy and condolences appropriately directed to the family of Yitzhak Rabin and the people of Israel in this moment of tragedy. This resolution expresses its admiration for the historic contributions made by Prime Minister Rabin over his long and distinguished career of public service. Also, it expresses support for the government of Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

I was a member of the Presidential delegation that attended the funeral, after which we had the distinct privilege and pleasure of having Mr. Peres take from his busy time to come and thank all of the Americans who were a part of that delegation.

I also thought that President Clinton also used his time well to thank the members of the Knesset who sponsored a brief reception for the American delegation. It was an extremely moving experience to be a part of such an historic moment and to see the numbers

of faces that lined the streets of Jerusalem that were in mourning and in sympathy for their and our departed leader.

As this resolution comes to the floor, I am hopeful that civil discourse will take on new meaning for all of us that at least should learn from these kinds of experiences, that we can be better in our disagreements.

The song says, "When will they ever learn? When will they learn?"

I hope from this sad tragedy that all of us will learn the lessons of peace.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1315

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to first express my appreciation that the Members of this House have had the opportunity today to eulogize Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. His tragic death will, we hope, serve as a catalyst to all those in the Middle East to come together and to move the peace process forward.

It is essential that extremists cease their hateful activity so that the nation of Israel can benefit from the tragic death of Yitzhak Rabin as a motivator for healing his nation.

Mr. Speaker, all of Israel's citizens must play a constructive role in determining Israel's future. Prime Minister Rabin's death can and should be a force for peace. But first, Israel's citizens need to listen to each other, to understand and recognize their hopes and fears, their dreams, and concerns.

Let us hope and pray that Yitzhak Rabin's shocking loss will spur leaders throughout the Middle East into a more active and a committed role for a long-lasting peace.

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my outrage and sadness over the assassination of Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. There are few people who stand against incredible odds to achieve peace. Yitzhak Rabin was one such person—a great leader and laborer for peace.

Mr. Speaker, a crime this violent and thoughtless is unspeakable, especially when it is against a person so dedicated to promoting peace in an area infested with war and upheaval for so long. Prime Minister Rabin brought his people together to mend the wounds of the past and prepare them for the road of peace, a profound achievement for which he was recognized in 1994 when he received the Nobel Prize for Peace. His dedication to this cause was so great, he died for it. As it is said in the bible, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." This passage reminds us that Prime Minister Rabin's efforts in the peace process must continue and never be allowed to falter.

Only a short time ago, Prime Minister Rabin joined President Clinton and Palestinian leader Yassar Arafat at the White House for a second peace treaty signing, ensuring that lasting peace would prevail in the Holy Land. We must not let this cowardly act of murder deter the people of Israel and Palestine from living together in harmony. Although the peace process between Israel and Palestine has not

been an easy one and the murder of Rabin has made it more difficult, we as Members of Congress must help ensure it will not be further jeopardized by the ignorant.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that justice for those involved in this unspeakable crime will be swift and severe. A great friend of peace is lost and will never be forgotten. My deepest condolences go out the Rabin family and the nation of Israel.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Prime Minister Rabin was a true hero who devoted, and eventually sacrificed his life for peace and democracy in the country of Israel. My heart goes out to this great peacemaker's family and the citizens of his country, all of whom will surely miss him.

Yitzhak Rabin was a courageous military leader who fought for Israel's freedom and spearheaded its rebirth. Just as he defended Israel from the threats of enemies, he also pursued peace with those who posed threats. As Prime Minister, he successfully achieved a very positive relationship with our country and won the hearts of several U.S. presidents.

The strong leadership and numerous accomplishments of Yitzhak Rabin will not soon be forgotten. Although his was a tragic death, this courageous leader's ideas and progress toward peace will continue. Prime Minister Rabin wanted a free, democratic Israel where peace prevailed throughout the land. I am confident that the peace process between Israel, the Palestinians and Arab countries will continue with the same vigor and spirit that the Prime Minister dedicated to this crusade.

In honor of this hero, I urge you to vote in favor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31, Honoring the Life and Legacy of Yitzhak Rabin. Not only does this measure extend sympathy to the family and condemn the assassination, it also expresses our commitment, as legislators, to the Middle East peace process. Your vote in favor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 is of vital importance.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, the date of June 26 will long be remembered by peace-loving people throughout the world. For it was on that date in 1992 when Yitzhak Rabin's fragmented Labor Party scored an upset victory in elections over the Likud Party on a platform of progress and peace.

In that election, the Israeli people spoke loud and clear. The Jewish State could no longer afford to shed the blood of its sons and daughters. Only by pursuing a real and lasting peace with its neighbors, would their country fulfill its prophecy as embodied in the national anthem *Hatikva*: "To be a free people in our land, in the land of Zion and Jerusalem."

With this weekend's senseless assassination of Prime Minister Rabin in the midst of the largest peace in rally in the nation's 47-year history, we are left to search for answers in the face of this horrible tragedy. Above all else we are left to wonder if this act of brutal cowardice will derail the tremendous strides Israel, its Arba neighbors, and the United States have made together since Rabin came to power.

Rabin was a skillful general who spent the better part of his life in the Israeli military, helping to protect his young homeland from constant attacks and acts of war. But in the end, Rabin will be remembered as a peace warrior, who would not back down from his mission, even at the price of his own life.

Now more than ever before, we must strengthen our resolve for peace. We must not waste a moment to move forward to fulfill the promise for which Yitzhak Rabin gave his life. If we need any clearer indication of the world's commitment to realizing Rabin's legacy, we need look no further than the outpouring of grief at Monday's funeral from leaders whose very attendance would have been unthinkable a few short years ago.

Just as we have since 1948, the United States and Israel will remain great allies. Here in America, and throughout the world the leaders of nations must follow the examples of Yitzhak Rabin's selfless determination and un-failing commitment. In doing so, we will begin the 21st century not in fear of war or hatred, but in the spirit of peace, progress and *Hatikva*: Hope.

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to Yitzhak Rabin. Last Saturday was truly a sad day, because not only did Israel lose a fine Prime Minister, but the world lost a great leader. He began as a soldier fighting for his nation's freedom, and died as a soldier for peace.

The life of Yitzhak Rabin is the story of Israel. He was born in Jerusalem in 1922 and fought for Israel's independence. He worked his way through the ranks of the Israel Defense Forces, becoming Chief of Staff and the architect of the Israeli victory in the Six-Day War in 1967. He was first elected Prime Minister in 1974, and was again elected in 1992. In a time when great leadership was needed, Yitzhak Rabin always stepped forward to serve his nation. He will be remembered as one of the greatest leaders of our century and as a man with the fortitude to lay down arms and embrace his enemy in the name of peace.

I had the great pleasure to meet Prime Minister Rabin in Jerusalem in May of this year and it was an experience that I will never forget. I still have a picture in my mind of him sitting in a conference room talking to us.

He was a man of great courage and vision. He had the foresight and bravery to fight for peace, to lead his country into a peace with people who had previously been bitter enemies.

I also had the privilege to be present on the White House lawn on September 13, 1993, when Prime Minister Rabin and Yasir Arafat signed a historic peace accord that has opened a new chapter of peace in the Middle East. It was the personal courage and leadership of Mr. Rabin that made the accord possible. Now the fight for peace continues, despite the loss of one of its finest soldiers.

The peace process must go on despite this tragic loss. The voices and acts of extremists cannot be allowed to stand in the way of progress. The greatest tribute which can be done for Yitzhak Rabin is continuing the peace process. He will not be forgotten, and his achievements will be memorialized in the future by the sight of Israelis and Arabs living together in peace.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow and a sense of personal loss that I introduce legislation today that honors the life and legacy of Israel's slain Prime Minister. Yitzhak Rabin, who was gunned down on Saturday night by a lone assassin, was attacked by a killer who opposed Prime Minister Rabin's efforts at reconciliation and peace with the PLO, initiated 2 years ago with the signing

of the Declaration of Principles between the parties.

The shocking circumstances of Prime Minister Rabin's death magnify the tragedy of his loss. I was honored to participate with the Presidential delegation that attended Prime Minister Rabin's state funeral yesterday. It was gratifying to see in attendance an extensive list of international dignitaries, including representatives of nations with which Israel does not have any diplomatic relations.

It was this gathering that mourned the life and legacy of Yitzhak Rabin, a soldier-statesman who became his nation's first native born Prime Minister. Born in Jerusalem in 1922, as a young man, Yitzhak Rabin fought for Israel's independence by defending the Tel-Aviv-Jerusalem highway. He distinguished himself repeatedly, and, as Chief of Staff of the Israel Defence Forces, was the architect of Israel's stunning victory in the Six-Day War of 1967, which saw Jerusalem, Rabin's birthplace, reunited as Israel's capital.

I came to know, to work with, and to respect General Rabin in his capacity as Ambassador to the United States, as Secretary of Defense, and as Israel's Prime Minister. He distinguished himself again and again, contributing heavily to the close U.S.-Israel partnership that exists today. His commitment to that relationship, as well as his personal and unstinting commitment to "peace with security", were evident throughout the remainder of his political career, whether as Minister of Defense or Prime Minister of Israel.

Israel's road to peace has been a difficult one. Yet, Prime Minister Rabin will forever be remembered as a man who not only led Israel to victory in war, but who also led her citizens in pursuit of peace. At this troubled time in Israel's history, we express our support for Israel's transition government, and reaffirm the congressional commitment to a lasting peace between Israel and her neighbors.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the Rabin family, with Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres, and with all the people of Israel at this time.

Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I request that the full text of our legislation, House Concurrent Resolution 112, be printed at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

H. CON. RES. 112

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin, a true hero of Israel, was born in Jerusalem on March 1, 1922;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served in the Israel Defense Forces for more than two decades, and fought in three wars including service as Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces during the Six Day War of June 1967;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin served the people of Israel with great distinction in a number of government positions, including Ambassador to the United States from 1968 to 1973, Minister of Defense from 1984 to 1988, and twice as Prime Minister from 1974 to 1977 and from June 1992 until his assassination;

Whereas under the leadership of Yitzhak Rabin, a framework for peace between Israel and the Palestinians was established with the signing of the Declaration of Principles on September 13, 1993, continued with the conclusion of a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan on October 26, 1994, and continues today;

Whereas on December 10, 1994, Yitzhak Rabin was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace for his vision and accomplishments as a peacemaker;

Whereas shortly before his assassination, Yitzhak Rabin said, "I have always believed

that the majority of the people want peace and are ready to take a chance for peace . . . Peace is not only in prayers . . . but it is in the desire of the Jewish people.”;

Whereas Yitzhak Rabin's entire life was dedicated to the cause of peace and security for Israel and its people; and

Whereas on November 4, 1995, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated in Tel Aviv, Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) condemns the heinous assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the strongest terms;

(2) extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and to all the people of Israel in this moment of tragedy;

(3) expressed its admiration for the historic contributions made by Yitzhak Rabin over his long and distinguished career of public service;

(4) expresses its support for the government of Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to the process of building a just and lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors.

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 31, which condemns the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and extends Congress' deepest sympathy to the family of Mr. Rabin and the Israeli people. The measure also expresses support for the government of Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres and its commitment to the process of building a just and lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, on the night of November 4, 1995, the world lost one of its great leaders. Yitzhak Rabin was a warrior who fought bravely to create the State of Israel, and who fought hard to defend Israel. Yitzhak Rabin knew war, he knew all the destruction and suffering that war causes. More than any Israeli leader, Yitzhak Rabin yearned for a lasting peace.

In the last years of his amazing life he achieved many of the goals he worked so hard for throughout his life. Perhaps it took a man of Yitzhak Rabin's strength, fairness, integrity, and immense courage to forge a meaningful peace with Israel's neighbors and the Palestinian people.

More than anything, Yitzhak Rabin was a man of peace and a man of courage. He devoted his entire life to the security and well-being of his country. Ultimately, Yitzhak Rabin gave his life for the cause of peace. All those throughout the world who cherish peace mourn this enormous loss. Yitzhak Rabin will be long remembered as one of the great men of the 20th century.

I join my colleagues in saluting this great man, and in extending our deepest and heartfelt sympathies to his family and the people of Israel.

I also join my colleagues in expressing my sincere hope that the historic peace process that Yitzhak Rabin worked so hard to put in place, continues. Indeed, I can't think of a more appropriate and lasting monument to Mr. Rabin than the establishment of a lasting peace agreement between Israel, the Palestinian people, and Israel's neighbors.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 31.

We join with the people of Israel in mourning the death of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin,

a plainspoken man of eloquence and courage. He was his country's greatest war hero and he was its greatest peacemaker.

A soldier, father, and grandfather, he knew too well the terrible price all the people of the Middle East, Jews and Arabs alike, have paid for decades of war and he knew too well the inconsolable grief of parents for their slain children.

The tragic loss of this great man, who moved his country to make peace with its greatest enemies—for which he received the Nobel Peace Prize—must be met with unwavering determination to finish the march toward peace, the “great and noble idea of peace,” that he started. That must be the world's tribute to Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a renowned world leader. Yitzhak Rabin's unwavering commitment to the security and future of his people leaves a legacy worthy of emulation. He led his country to victories on the battlefield and paved the way for peace with his former enemies. Just minutes before his death Prime Minister Rabin reminded his country of the momentous crossroads at which it stands. “I was a military man for 27 years. I waged war as long as there was no chance for peace. I believe there is now a chance for peace, a great chance, and we must take advantage of it. * * *”

The Israeli democracy he crafted and protected so vehemently will continue to bring stability and peace to the land in his death. This is Israel's inheritance.

His courage and leadership proven in war and displayed in peace earned him global respect and admiration. The outpouring of leaders and friends to his funeral, many of them former enemies, is a testament to his leadership and accomplishments. He will be sorely missed.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today we are pausing to remember Israel's courageous fallen leader, Yitzhak Rabin. Prime Minister Rabin was a rare leader, the kind the world sees once in a generation.

He was a valiant soldier who led the Israeli Army to victory in the Six-Day War. He united Jerusalem, and secured Israel's borders. He made it safe for Jews from around the world to pray at the Western Wall.

But it is for his tireless dedication to peace that he will always be remembered. As a former soldier, he knew all too well the price of war.

He made many sacrifices, and took many risks to make peace. He knew that his mission for peace was unsure and dangerous, but he also knew that peace for the Jewish State was a worthy and important goal.

In the fall of 1993, I had the privilege to meet Yitzhak Rabin in Israel, and was struck by his sincerity and humanity. Then, a month later, I was standing on the White House lawn the day that Prime Minister Rabin and Yasser Arafat took that enormous step toward peace. I remember the handshake, and the promise it held for a bright future for Jews and Arabs alike.

Now, an assassin's bullet has taken away one of the real visionaries of our time. And in a split second, the world became a great deal poorer.

Today, it is hard for us to make any sense of so tragic an act. But, we try by taking a minute to reflect on Prime Minister Rabin's enormous accomplishments, and by holding

his life up as an example of courage, commitment, and dedication to peace.

As Representative of the Sixth Congressional District of California, I assure you that I will always make sure that the United States stays a strong and dependable ally of the State of Israel. We must stand by Israel always—but it is even more important at such a troubled moment. Further, we must all make sure that Prime Minister Rabin's heroic deeds are remembered forever—and that we give life to his dreams by dedicating ourselves to fulfilling his goal of a lasting peace for all.

Mrs. FOWLER. Mr. Speaker, as we heard in the eulogies at his funeral, Yitzhak Rabin was many things to many people—soldier, statesman, strategist, loyal friend, respected opponent, and beloved grandfather. The world, however, will remember him purely and simply as a hero—a hero in the one battle he said it was a pleasure to wage—the battle for peace.

Following Mr. Rabin's death, I went back and read a poem which I heard him quote before a joint session of Congress last year. The poem, by Archibald McLeish, is about soldiers who died to protect their homeland. Part of it goes like this:

They say, Our deaths are not ours; they are yours; they will mean what you make them * * * They say, We leave you our deaths. Give them their meaning.

It is up to all people of good will to give Mr. Rabin's death meaning, by carrying on the great work for which he gave his life.

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, on the sad occasion of Yitzhak Rabin's tragic death, I convey my deepest condolences to the nation of Israel. Mr. Speaker, as you and other world leaders return from a mourning Israel, I am certain you appreciate that Yitzhak Rabin's sudden death must not overshadow his prosperous life. The fallen leader now rests peacefully alongside other greats in Israel's history, comforted by the cypress and pine of Mount Herzl Cemetery. As this and future generations visit the cemetery, I am hopeful they will be struck by the peace of the setting which befits his most enduring legacy. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the following letter written to Ambassador Rabinovich be included in the RECORD.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 6, 1995.

Hon. ITAMAR RABINOVICH,
Ambassador of Israel,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR: On behalf of those I have the honor to represent in the 19th District of California, I wish to express our most sincere sympathy to the people of Israel on the loss of your leader, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

There is little I can add to the expressions of mourning—many of them so movingly eloquent—that have been heard from around the world. Indeed, I find my own feelings voiced best by what two others have said.

“The best memorial for Yitzhak Rabin is to continue what he started, which is the peace process. Only through our unwavering commitment to this objective can we truly honor the memory of this fallen hero of peace.”—President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

“The Jewish people, who go back a long way, have always been inspired by fallen heroes like Yitzhak Rabin to reaffirm their faith.”—William Safire, New York Times columnist.

To the end that our world no longer shall experience the painful cost of war, let us keep always before us the example of

Yitzhak Rabin's courage, vision, and commitment to peace.

In sympathy,

GEORGE P. RADANOVICH,
Member of Congress.

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Speaker, Yitzhak Rabin was a great leader and a great peacemaker. He took tremendous risks for peace, including the ultimate sacrifice of losing his life.

In the aftermath of Mr. Rabin's assassination, there must be an international reckoning on violence and those groups who attempt to tear us apart. In my own State of Oregon, there are fringe organizations that employ inflammatory rhetoric and actions that are seeking to divide us. What we need instead are groups that are seeking to bring us together. Yitzhak Rabin was about bringing people together.

I concur with Leah Rabin, widow of the slain leader, who says we must speak out against acts of extremism. She asks of the radical groups' leaders to take responsibility for the effect of their extreme rhetoric.

In the case of our own Oklahoma City bombing, we learned that if our leaders are using radical rhetoric, it gives deranged individuals an opening to take extreme acts.

Across the world, violent talk leads to violent actions. I join my colleagues in mourning the loss of Yitzhak Rabin, and urge them to support this very important resolution.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the U.S. Congress, I had the rare opportunity to meet Yitzhak Rabin in the recent past. I recall a man of great intensity, and as he spoke in his baritone voice, my colleagues and I were mesmerized. A photographer captured my meeting with Yitzhak Rabin, and that photo hangs proudly in my office in Washington. As you peered into his deep-set eyes, it was apparent he was the consummate warrior and the ultimate peacemaker.

Yitzhak Rabin was the warrior who helped Israel become a nation in 1948, the warrior who led Israel against insurmountable odds in the Six-Day War, the warrior who knew he had to rely on God's strength to protect his tiny nation. He persevered only because he believed that the cause of Israel was greater than Israel itself; a cause for freedom for all people who had oppressed.

And Yitzhak Rabin was the peacemaker, the one who saw Israel's role in the world from the perspective of a lasting peace. The warrior was tired of fighting and turned his energies to making peace.

I met those whom he had touched deeply: King Hussein of Jordan and Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. They respected Rabin because of his strength. He was a strong man—strong at age 73—strong in his beliefs for free Israel and strong in his convictions for a lasting peace in the Middle East. They respected him because he respected them.

They're gone now: Moshe Dayan, Menachem Begin, Golda Meir, David Ben Gurion. Now, the only native-born Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, has gone to rest.

At the funeral service Monday in Israel, King Hussein was visibly moved. Who would have thought we would have seen that happen in our lifetime, a once bitter enemy shaken by the loss of a comrade in peace?

And Rabin's granddaughter, who is preparing to go into the military, as do all young people in Israel, said, "as a pillar of light led our

people through the wilderness, my grandfather led me, and who will lead me now?"

His memory leads us now. The memory of one who fought for peace, and who died for peace.

We honor the warrior turned peacemaker, the one who had the courage to believe the sons of Hagar and Sara would someday reconcile, the one who believed Isaiah.

And he will judge between the nations, and will render decisions for many peoples. And they will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, and never again will they learn war.

Mr. LAZIO of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of the late Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin, whose tragic murder shocked and saddened us all.

I saw him for the last time just 2 weeks ago in Washington, at a ceremony in the Capitol commemorating the 3,000th anniversary of the holy city of Jerusalem. On Monday, Prime Minister Rabin was buried in Jerusalem, the city of his birth.

Yitzhak Rabin served his country with great distinction, starting as a young soldier in Israel's fight for independence. As a soldier and a statesman, he always fought with tremendous bravery for the ideals to which he was committed.

In 1948, bravery meant leading the defense of Jerusalem. In 1967, as Army chief of staff, it meant defeating the combined enemies of Israel, which surrounded the country on every side. As Prime Minister in the 1970's, it meant sending Israeli commandoes across a continent to rescue a plane full of hostages at Entebbe. And as he resumed the office of Prime Minister in 1992, bravery meant taking heed of the commandment in the 34th Psalm to "Seek peace, and pursue it."

It took great courage to defend Israel from its enemies and perhaps even more courage to reach out his hand to those enemies in the cause of peace. Yitzhak Rabin was a very courageous man, a man dedicated to the cause of peace, which he saw as Israel's best chance for long-term security and prosperity.

Prime Minister Rabin knew, as it says in Ecclesiastes, "There is a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace." Now, he said, was the time to put aside hate and war, and to pursue peace.

Yitzhak Rabin is gone, so it is up to us who survive him to pursue peace and to ensure that he did not die in vain. Israel and its neighbors are poised at a critical junction. The peace process can continue, or extremists on all sides can doom the Middle East to continued hatred and war. All who love peace must raise our voices to echo what Yitzhak Rabin said at the White House in 1993, "Enough bloodshed and tears, enough!"

I am encouraged by the demonstration of support for Middle East peace from the more than 60 world leaders who flew to Israel to attend Prime Minister Rabin's funeral. Israel no longer is diplomatically isolated. In all, more than 86 nations were represented at the services in Jerusalem Monday.

The act of senseless violence that ended Prime Minister Rabin's life may well bring Israel together in support of further progress toward peace. How long that sense of unity will last is far from certain. Acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Monday that "Peace is irreversible," but history suggests peace is not

inevitable unless men and women of good will speak for peace and demand it. Those who support the peace process must speak out.

The U.S. Government, with strong bipartisan support, must continue its commitment to full support for Israel in this difficult time.

Pursuing peace is never easy and always will entail risks. But the risks of continued violence and instability in the Middle East are far higher. A bullet can kill a man, but not an ideal. People of goodwill must not allow an act of political terrorism to succeed in stopping the peace process. My hope is that with the help and encouragement of the United States, Israel will continue to seek a lasting peace for all the people of the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, today we treasure the memory of Yitzhak Rabin. As it says in the Book of Matthew, "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God." Let us pray that lasting peace will be Prime Minister Rabin's enduring legacy. May God bless the soul of Yitzhak Rabin, the people of Israel and the United States of America, and all those who seek peace.

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, last July, Yitzhak Rabin addressed a joint session of Congress together with King Hussein of Jordan. He spoke of the many Israelis who had suffered from war, whose friends and family had died in violence. During his speech, he said:

Today, we are embarking on a battle which has no dead and no wounded, no blood and no anguish. This is the only battle which is a pleasure to wage: the battle for peace.

Alas, there is today both blood and anguish. Yitzhak Rabin was a great man and a great leader. He was brave, wise, and he cared very deeply about his fellow countrymen and women.

Years ago, I had the opportunity to meet Mr. Rabin before he had become Prime Minister. I was struck by how much he cared about making the world a better place for his people. Indeed, it was his one goal, his only goal.

His whole life was spent in the service of Israel. He fought in many battles for Israeli independence, and later became Chief of Staff of the Israeli military. He held many posts in the government, including Ambassador to the United States, Defense Minister, and a previous term as Prime Minister.

During his final years, Yitzhak Rabin dedicated his life to an extraordinarily difficult journey: bringing peace to the Middle East. Difficult, because people have always found it is easier to solve differences through violence. Difficult, because there are always those who oppose negotiation, for in it they see their own concessions rather than the great good it brings to all.

In his same speech before Congress, Mr. Rabin quoted from the poet Archibald MacLeish:

"They say: We leave you our deaths. Give them their meaning."

Today, it is our task to give meaning to Mr. Rabin's death. We cannot let his years of labor towards building a new and permanent peace in the Middle East come to nothing. The arduous journey to peace shall continue, and we must help Israel in fulfilling it.

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of the distinguished Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin. His assassination on Saturday night following a peace rally in Tel Aviv was a tragedy for the citizens of Israel and people around the world.

We often speak of great leaders here, and I can think of none greater than Yitzhak Rabin. He was the essence of all that is good about Israel. Born in Jerusalem in 1922, Rabin was a military hero from the first days of Israel's existence. He fought in the 1948 siege of Jerusalem in an elite military unit, and served as Army Chief of Staff in the 1967 Six-Day War. Many say that it was because of Rabin's distinguished military career that he was able to move Israel so strongly toward peace.

Since he began his second term as Prime Minister in 1992, Rabin has led Israel toward a new era of Middle East peace. The Nobel Peace Prize he shared with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in 1994 recognized the first important step toward achieving comprehensive peace, the 1993 agreement Rabin and Peres signed with the PLO. The next momentous occasion was the peace agreement between Israel and Jordan. Other milestones and honors for Rabin surely would have followed if not for this tragic event.

Yitzhak Rabin was a courageous man who built on his experience as a warrior to become a great peacemaker. I am optimistic that the other participants in the peace process will continue to work toward their goal. When Middle East peace comes, it will be a result of the legacy of Yitzhak Rabin.

It is traditional that when Jews mention the name of someone who has passed away, the name is following by an acronym representing the words "may his memory be a blessing." I have no doubt that Yitzhak Rabin's memory will indeed be a blessing.

Mr. Speaker, Yitzhak Rabin was a great man who will be missed. We can all learn from his life, all that he accomplished, and all that he would have if his life had not been suddenly cut short.

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, in Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's last words he eloquently stated his vision for the future. "I believe there is now a chance for peace, a great chance, and we must take advantage of it for those who are standing here, and for those who are not here—and they are many. I have always believed that the majority of the people want peace and are ready to take a chance for peace. . . . Peace is not only in prayers . . . but it is the desire of the Jewish people." Rabin's life was dedicated to the state of Israel's rebirth, security, survival and freedom. It is only fitting that as we celebrate his life, we speak to what had become his vision—a democratic Israel at peace with its neighbors. His vision was for the future of the Jews, Israel, and the people of the Middle East. In a Joint Meeting of Congress in 1994 Rabin referenced the death of many young soldiers. "I have come from Jerusalem in the name of our children. . . . Each year as I stand before the parents whose lips are chanting "Kaddish," the Jewish Memorial Prayer, ringing in my ears are the words of [Archibald] MacLeish who echoes the plea of the young dead soldiers: 'They say: We leave you our deaths. Give them meaning.'" It is my hope and prayer, and that of many, that Prime Minister Rabin's death will be given meaning.

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, the world continues to mourn the loss of Yitzhak Rabin, the proud and gracious leader of Israel, a man of great courage, resolve and goodness. His deep and abiding love of Israel is beyond reproach. He was that rarity in history, a leader

who was revered and admired not only by his citizens, but around the world. He was a man of great integrity and selfless almost to a fault. His devotion to his country was unwavering, from his participation in the Jewish underground army, to his command of the Six-Day War, to his election as Israel's youngest Prime Minister.

But his greatest devotion and his greatest contribution, not only to Israel, but also the Middle East and the entire world, was achieving a lasting peace. That lasting peace was something few thought possible. However, in the mind of Yitzhak Rabin, a thoughtful and reasoned man, it was not only a goal that was possible, but a goal that must be achieved if Israel was going to survive.

Rarely in history do we find examples of such integrity and loyalty. This was not a man concerned with politics or appearances or his own popularity, but instead one who chose to lead his country, as he had been asked, and to live up to whatever challenge might face him, no matter the consequences. In one of the greatest challenges of the 20th Century, he embarked on a dramatic plan toward achieving lasting peace with the Palestinians. Against every possible obstacle, his dream was realized on the South Lawn of the White House on September 13, 1993, when a peace accord few thought possible was signed.

Israel and the world continue to weep and grieve over the senseless taking of the life of Yitzhak Rabin. It is the cruelest of ironies that a man so committed to peaceful resolutions would meet his demise at the hands of another Jew; it was an act of such senseless violence. Yitzhak Rabin will be replaced, and the world is hopeful that his legacy of peace will continue, but his are shoes that truly cannot ever be filled.

Yitzhak Rabin's love of country, his will, his great intellect and sense of compassion cannot be duplicated. His was a greatness that will go unparalleled in history.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow once said of greatness:

The heights by men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night.

Yitzhak Rabin toiled upward in the night his entire life, for seven decades. He toiled for a country and a people he deeply loved, a people who surrounded him with a great deal of affection at the time of his death. America, Israel and the world will never forget Yitzhak Rabin or his lasting contribution to the betterment of all mankind.

Like Longworth said, the truly great toil upward in the night to reach the greatest of heights. In that darkness, Yitzhak Rabin dreamt the sweetest of dreams, one of true, lasting peace.

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to the chorus of members condemning this horrible crime and extending our sympathy to Mr. Rabin's family and to the people of Israel. I am proud to support this resolution.

In the last few days, many have spoken of Yitzhak Rabin's transformation from soldier to statesman. As I see it, however, Yitzhak Rabin did not change. Throughout his life, Yitzhak Rabin lived as a patriot devoted to the creation, defense, survival, and success of Israel and its citizens.

Yitzhak Rabin did not undergo a radical transformation. Rather, he lived his life in

steadfast defense of his nation. When Israel's very survival depended on its military might, Yitzhak Rabin led its forces in defense of his homeland. When his nation's future depended on its quest for peace, Yitzhak Rabin led that charge with equal fervor and tenacity. Yitzhak Rabin did not change, but he recognized the changes that had occurred in his country and in the world.

Prime Minister Rabin could see that Israel's destiny was not to remain an armed camp, a nation in which nearly every family has lost a member to war and violence. He participated in every war his nation fought, and he knew that his people had seen enough war, enough death, enough tears. In a move that was perhaps more courageous than any he had taken in battle, he entered negotiations with the Palestinians. In doing so, he discarded dogma in favor of a very real opportunity for meaningful peace, partnership, and progress.

Mr. Rabin was not simply a lofty dreamer. He was a hard-headed pragmatist who did not merely hope for peace. He knew that attaining peace was the only way Israel would achieve true security and satisfaction, and he knew that it would not be easy. The final years of his life were consumed with this pursuit of peace. In a short time, he achieved peace with Jordan and several agreements with the Palestinians, and up to the very end he sought an agreement with Syria. All of this was accomplished in the face of personal vilification and extremist opposition. The presence at his funeral of dignitaries from Arab nations across the region, even some that do not yet have formal ties with Israel, demonstrated the success of his yet incomplete efforts.

I join my colleagues in expressing support for the government of Acting Prime Minister Peres and its commitment to building a just and lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors. I call upon our Nation and the entire world to learn from the wisdom of Yitzhak Rabin. When his people needed a soldier to protect them, he took up arms. When it needed a statesman to shepherd them to peace, he had the strength and courage to shake hands.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the assassinated Prime Minister of Israel, Yitzhak Rabin. I knew the Prime Minister well and I have met with him frequently, most recently just 2 weeks ago when he was here in the great rotunda of this building to mark the 3,000 anniversary of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and to mark the adoption by the Congress of legislation that will move the United States Embassy in Israel to Israel's capital, Jerusalem.

I wish to express to Yitzhak's dear wife, Leah, my sincere and heart-felt sympathy at the tragic personal loss that she and her family have suffered as a consequence of this senseless and reprehensible political murder. I also want to acknowledge my deepest admiration and my sincere appreciation for the heroic role which Prime Minister Rabin played—first, as an outstanding warrior and military leader in fighting to bring security and safety to the people of Israel, and second, as a bold political leader who took great risks in the effort to bring peace to Israel and its neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, international leaders from numerous countries have paid eloquent and moving tribute to Prime Minister Rabin—in statements issued at the time the world

learned of the shocking and tragic death of the Prime Minister and in powerful eulogies to him on the occasion of his funeral in Jerusalem. I cannot add to those well-spoken phrases.

I do, however, wish to call the attention of my distinguished colleagues to the profound statements of others who have spoken of Prime Minister Rabin. Mr. Speaker, last Monday, I participated in the memorial service for Mr. Rabin that was held in Los Angeles at the Simon Wiesenthal Center. On that occasion, we heard the eloquent words of Rabbi Marvin Hier, Dean of the Holocaust Studies Center at the Simon Wiesenthal Center. I ask that his excellent statement be placed in the RECORD. I also ask that the wonderful statement by Israel's Consul General in San Francisco, Nimrod Barkan, be placed in the RECORD. Consul General Barkan's statement about Prime Minister Rabin was published in the San Francisco Chronicle in today's edition.

EULOGY DELIVERED BY RABBI MARVIN HIER
MEMORIAL SERVICE IN MEMORY OF PRIME
MINISTER YITZHAK RABIN—NOVEMBER 6,
1995

This is one of the saddest days in modern Jewish history. A day when the life of a courageous Prime Minister of Israel was snuffed out by one of our own. One supposedly schooled in law and morality, one versed in the Torah, in the Juridic principals of pluralism and democracy.

What shall we say. What words are there to comfort us in this dark hour when we are confronted by a killer who has the audacity to declare, "I do not regret what I have done. G-D spoke to me and told me to do it".

No, my friends. The G-D of Israel who commanded "Thou shalt not kill", the G-D of Israel who demanded of Cain . . . "Where is Abel thy Brother?" . . . "His blood crieth to me from the ground".

That G-D is much too clever to speak to such a fool. Much too humble to empower such arrogance and much too noble to dignify such deception.

No, it is not the words of the Almighty that the assassin heard that day, rather it is the cynical rhetoric of extremism. The anthem of fanatics that struck down Israel's Prime Minister.

A climate of going beyond the pale—beyond the parameters of legitimate criticism which is the sacred rite of every democracy. A climate that allows a man to hold up a placard showing Yitzhak Rabin dressed in an SS uniform, * * * justifying it by declaring—it's an expression of my opposition to his government's policies.

Such tyranny against a man who fought the Nazis when he was 19 years old during World War II when many others sat by silently.

Against a man who in 1945 launched a daring raid to rescue 200 holocaust survivors that the British had interred on a Greek island.

Such a placard against the deputy commander of the Palmach who kept the roads to Jerusalem open, enabling crucial supplies to get through during the War of Independence in 1948.

An SS placard against the Chief of Staff who brilliantly won the six-day war and who restored the Western Wall to the Jewish people for the first time in 2,000 years of exile.

A placard against a man who launched the raid on Entebbe * * * dealing a mortal blow to international terrorism.

And still the placards appeared and re-appeared and no one rose up to tear them down.

Such infamy breeds a climate of hatred. Such indignity gives birth to killers. Yes, even killers smart enough to work their way through law school.

What is especially painful, my friends, is that we are the people who walked away from the Holocaust and yet maintained our faith in G-D!

The people who walked away from the crematoria and still showed a capacity to love!

The people who moved away from the valley of the shadow of death to rebuild our lives in our communities without rancor! Fostering new dreams and singing new songs of hope for a better world and a better tomorrow, just as Yitzhak Rabin did only moments before he was gunned down.

Who can believe that this great leader in war and peace is no longer with us because he refused to believe that someone would open another front against him in an area where he was most vulnerable.

He had successfully fought a three-frontal war in 1967 and now he was engaged in an historic three-frontal effort for peace. But he never believed that someone from within would rise up and open a fourth front against him. One that would pit Jew against Jew and one in which 2,000 years ago was responsible for the destruction of Jerusalem and the burning of its temple.

My friends, Yitzhak Rabin is assured his place of honor in the rich history of the Jewish people. The bullet that killed him will not prevent future generations from learning the story of this noble warrior and this great man of peace who asked for nothing more than the right to bequeath his grandchildren and great-grandchildren a promised land free of war and want, rich in spirit and ideas where the words of the ancient prophet still ring true * * * righteousness, righteousness shalt thou pursue.

May the memory of Yitzhak Rabin be for a blessing and may the peace he gave his life for take hold and endure forever.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, Nov. 8,
1995]

RABIN: STAR OF A HEROIC GENERATION
(By Nimrod Barkan)

I have cried many times during the past weekend and diplomats normally are not supposed to cry. I wept for the loss of Israel's and my personal political father figure. Yitzhak Rabin symbolized for me everything that was heroic in the generation that established and led the state of Israel, fighting his enemies while aspiring for a peace compromise.

It is said that old soldiers never die, and Yitzhak Rabin's legacy will never fade. He was always there as a soldier in the eye of the storm for the causes of Jewish history. He was a soldier for freedom from 1948 and a hard-nosed realistic soldier for peace ever since he participated in the Armistice Agreement negotiations in 1949.

I recall that when he became defense minister and prime minister, I was impressed, as were others in army planning and intelligence, at the fact that at every meeting they and their chiefs had with him, he was always more knowledgeable, more versed in details and more aware of grand-scale issues than any other participant.

Rabin was prime minister twice. From 1974 to 1977 and then again from 1992 until last Saturday. He dealt primarily with security and peace-making. Rabin's governments, however, were also governments of social reform. Under his guidance substantial social legislation was enacted. Rabin, the security leader, was also a major domestic reformer.

In 1987 he was faced with the "intifada," or Palestinian uprising. This strategic dove who continuously called for separation between Jews and Arabs was also a tactical hawk.

Always aware of the depth of Arab enmity toward Israel, he believed that Palestinian

success in the intifada would harden their position and would thus prevent progress in the peace talks. On the other hand, Rabin knew all too well the limits Israel had to establish while dealing with the civilian population in the West Bank and Gaza.

Rabin's life story is the story of the Jewish struggle for independence and is the story of Israel. The bullet that killed him, shot by a messianic terrorist, was aimed not only at him but at the whole concept of Zionism of the possible, and not nationalism of zealotry that already led once to the destruction of the Second Temple, the beginning of the diaspora.

Yitzhak Rabin, our father figure, together with Shimon Peres, believed that the Jewish state should invest its energy and resources in its citizens and in Jewish immigrants from all over the world. Thus Rabin is the Real Zionist—a pragmatic doer and a believing visionary. Soldier for independence, economic development and social reforms, he believed that peace is the vehicle for achieving these goals in a secure Israel—deferring Israel's enemies while uniting in peace with potential Arab partners.

Rabin was not a people person, however. His shy personality was generous, kind and outgoing in more private settings. Rabin's granddaughter's moving words at his funeral about his famous, warm half-smile were a manifestation of that, so were the tears of his close friends Henry Kissinger and Bill Clinton.

His warm real nature showed itself when Rabin died a happy man—his smiling face during the last hours of his life indicated his satisfaction from the benefits of peace and from seeing so many of his supporters rallying to the flag as never before.

His last public act was to sing the peace song, the first and, how tragically, the last time he ever sang in public.

Yitzhak Rabin—it is because of you and your generation that we have a Jewish state. Farewell and shalom to you. As we weep in parting we vow to persevere in implementing your legacy.

Mr. WARD: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a man who taught us the invaluable lesson. Peace is always an option, always attainable, and always a worthy cause. I extend my sympathies, along with millions around the world, to his family and the people of Israel.

The assassination of Prime Minister Rabin has shocked the conscience of the world and silenced one of the great peacemakers of our time. This tragic event serves as a stark reminder to the fact that we, in the United States as well as throughout the world, must strive to accept differing ideologies, religious and political, from that of our own.

I have always seen the State of Israel as the "can do" nation. Against all odds they have grown a nation steeped in democracy, prosperous despite limited resources, and gallant in battle. It is, therefore, even more shocking that such an event occurred there.

A soldier, statesman, father, husband, and peacemaker, Yitzhak Rabin ultimately gave his life to the cause of peace. If a general, who as a result of his military successes doubled the size of Israel, later came to believe that territorial compromise was necessary for peace, then I believe that this lesson can be learned by all Israelis. I believe that Israel's legacy and the legacy of Yitzhak Rabin, that peace and reconciliation are always possible, is a lesson for the Middle East and people all over the world.

On Monday evening, I attended a memorial service at The Temple in Louisville with about

500 others. Rabin's life, Rabin's dream, and Rabin's death have touched many throughout the world. Many have likened his death to that of Abraham Lincoln's who died in pursuit of healing a divided nation. We are reminded of the assassination of Anwar Sadat, a price he paid for peace. Rabin's willingness to take the risky road toward peace in light of its personal dangers demands that we all commit ourselves to ensure that peace is his true legacy.

Mr. SLAUGHTER: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to the many who have already paid tribute to Yitzhak Rabin, a courageous soldier and an irreplaceable leader.

We were all shocked and deeply saddened to hear the tragic news of the death of this great man—a man who overcame immense obstacles and accomplished what many have said could never happen. He paid the highest price a man can pay in his attempts to save the lives of his brethren in Israel, and across the Middle East.

In this time of sorrow and uncertainty, we must remember what Yitzhak Rabin stood for, and what he would want us to do. He was dedicated to peace—and we must continue that commitment. We must press forward with the implementation of the already signed agreements, and we must move on with the negotiations with other Arab nations. The last thing Yitzhak Rabin would want is for us to give up.

My heartfelt condolences go out to his family, his friends, and his nation. Yitzhak Rabin was, indeed, a great man. We will miss our friend, our hero—Yitzhak Rabin.

Mr. HOYER: Mr. Speaker, Woodrow Wilson in a speech about President Abraham Lincoln, while he was President of Princeton University, said, "A great nation is not led by a man who simply repeats the talk of the street-corners or the opinions of the newspapers. A nation is led by a man who hears more than those things; or who, rather, hearing those things, understands them better, unites them, puts them into a common meaning; speaks, not the rumors of the street, but a new principle for a new age; a man in whose ears the voices of a nation do not sound like accidental and discordant notes that come from the voice of the mob, but concurrent and concordant like the united voices of a chorus, whose many meanings, spoken by melodious tongues, unite in his understanding in a single meaning and reveal to him a single vision, so that he can speak what no man else knows, the meaning of the common voice. Such is the man who leads a great, free, democratic nation."

Such was the man called Yitzhak Rabin. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues and this nation in expressing its sorrow and grief over the untimely and tragic death of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. I also join in condemning the callous assassination of this true warrior for peace in the Middle East.

Prime Minister Rabin was one of those people throughout the world who looked beyond an immediate electoral victory and took risks to ensure that Israel's children could someday live without the immediate threat of war. His positions were at many times unpopular, yet the soldier in him continued the fight for peace. His continuous efforts for peace earned him the Nobel Peace Prize and the admiration of millions the world over. Unfortunately, his commitment to peace also made him countless enemies. And it was these en-

emies that took our friend, Yitzhak away from us.

Of all those who eulogized Prime Minister Rabin, none I believed moved us as much as Yitzhak's 17-year-old granddaughter, Noa Ben-Artzi Philosof, when she spoke of her grandfather, "Your appreciation and your love accompanied us every step down the road, and our lives were always shaped by your values. You, who never abandoned anything, are now abandoned. And here you are, my ever-present hero, cold, alone, and I cannot do anything to save you. You are missed so much."

Mr. Speaker, we will all miss Yitzhak Rabin—a courageous leader who gave his life to create not only a better life for Israel, but for the world over. An old Proverb states that "Good men must die, but death cannot kill their names." Yitzhak Rabin's name will live on in the name of peace in the Middle East. Shalom Yitzhak. Shalom Israel.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and with a very heavy heart to join in the grief over the cruel death of a great hero of Israel, and a great friend of America.

Yitzhak Rabin epitomized all that we admire and appreciate about the state of Israel. He was a valiant and brave soldier who played a crucial role in Israel's war of independence in 1948. At that time, he commanded the brigade that protected the road to Jerusalem—Israel's very lifeline.

As chief of staff of the Israel defense forces during the Six-Day War in June 1967, General Rabin presided over a stunning victory in a war of self-defense that preserved Israel's very existence.

Yitzhak Rabin was Prime Minister of Israel in the mid-1970's, a period that saw the historic disengagement accords with Egypt and Syria, and the electrifying Entebbe rescue. He also helped to heal the national wounds in the aftermath of the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

When he became Prime Minister again in 1992, largely on the strength of his own personal popularity and credibility with the people of Israel, he courageously embarked on a search for peace and coexistence with Israel's Arab neighbors, a quest that is nothing less than a fulfillment of the Zionist dream. It was that brave quest which cost him his life.

Yitzhak Rabin's life story is a microcosm of the story of Israel—the fierce determination to persevere coupled with the tireless yearning for peace. As our hearts are broken over his passing, let us all determine to remember him, and to achieving what he strove for—a true peace with security for the people of Israel.

Mr. FRANKS of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply saddened by the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and I wish to express my condolences to his family and to the nation of Israel.

Yitzhak Rabin was truly an extraordinary man. He was a war hero who won freedom and independence for the Israeli people and who was later called to defend and preserve that freedom and independence.

He was a great political leader who knew how to foster internal security and prosperity for his people while at the same time making sure the world knew that Israel would be a devastatingly effective adversary if attacked.

He knew that peace was the only route to true security and true prosperity. He overcame his instincts as a soldier and fighter and took

up the olive branch. He sat, negotiated, agreed, and shook hands with a man and a people who had been his and his nation's mortal enemy. He did all of this because he felt that peace was the solution. Peace was the only way to create a meaningful future for, not only Israel, but for all in the Middle East. His reward was to be gunned down by an extremist who wished to fan the fires of hatred.

The extremists of this world, not only in the Middle East, but everywhere, must realize that hatred and divisiveness never foster well-being and prosperity. They destroy lives and the human spirit, they do not build them up. They must realize that the civilized world rejects their hate and warmongering and will not let them distract us from the goal of a peaceful world.

One of the most important tributes that can be made to Yitzhak Rabin, is for the peace process to continue, unimpeded. This is what Prime Minister Rabin fought and died for. We must not let extremists and assassins think for one moment that their methods will yield success. Any delay at all in moving forward with the peace process will provide these people with justification in their actions.

We must pick up where Prime Minister Rabin left off and work harder than ever to achieve our aim. We must let those who wish to kill peace know that there are not enough bullets to stop those who work for a more peaceful world.

I salute Prime Minister Rabin for his accomplishments and for his ultimate sacrifice to the cause of peace.

Mr. PAYNE of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say that I was truly honored to be able to pay tribute to war hero and Nobel Peace Prize winner, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. What I witnessed in Jerusalem on Monday by the people of Israel was a tremendous outpouring of love and affection.

I think I can say that I join the world in mourning the loss of a heroic leader who never wavered in his rule as peacemaker, who persevered in the face of danger and adversity, who chose hope over fear. In meetings that I attended with him both in Israel and Washington, I found him always to be thoughtful and deliberative, thorough and fair-minded. He most impressed me with his ability to weight all sides of controversial issues.

We can truly empathize with the people of Israel. The brutal slayings of President Kennedy in 1963 and Dr. King in 1968 are dramatic reminders of the lives that were lost in the struggles for peace.

We must continue the legacies that Rabin stood for—peace in the Middle East. We must show that our support for acting Prime Minister Shimon Peres, Rabin's partner in the long march Israel had undertaken toward peace with his Arab neighbors, will not waver. I would also like to say the support of the United States delegation to Israel was tremendous. The people of Israel expressed their gratitude.

The eulogies stated that the visionary had become a fighter for peace turned martyr for peace. Ultimately, we must remember that to us he was a hero and a true statesman but to Leah, his wife, his children, and grandchildren he was just a great man that they loved dearly. In their hour of mourning, let us be ever so mindful of their pain.

The fate of the Oslo Accord, signed in Norway by Rabin and Arafat in 1993, must be

carried on. They include provisions for military and paramilitary troops, the occupied territories the Gaza Strip, and the West Bank. The United States has a responsibility to help Israel on the long journey toward peace.

Ms. DUNN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow and a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, whose life was tragically stolen from him on Saturday. He was a man of great courage, a man whose dedication to peace ultimately cost him his life.

In an ironic and fitting twist, the brief capsule of time it took to extinguish the life of Prime Minister Rabin—intended by his assailant to destroy the hard-fought peace process—will instead solidify Prime Minister Rabin's status as a legend. The outpouring of sympathy and love for Prime Minister Rabin by the world community is matched only by the expressions of condolence by his own beloved, grief-stricken countrymen.

The work of Yitzhak Rabin was pursued not just on behalf of the Nation of Israel and her citizens. Peace accomplished between Israel and the Palestinians is to all of humanity's advantage. Peace benefits Jews and Arabs living around the globe, and the region as a whole—a region which has experienced too many troubles over a span of thousands of years.

The grief-stricken people we have all seen on the news has left me stunned, but not without hope that continued vigilance in the pursuit of peace must be maintained. The violent outbursts of the man who would become Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, the poignant pictures of earth being placed over the flag-draped coffin, the moving remarks of Rabin's own granddaughter paying homage to her cherished hero, the shocking sight of those blood-stained long lyrics—all of these images are etched in my mind and will serve as a constant reminder that Prime Minister Rabin gave his life for a truly honorable goal: the Israeli-Palestinian peace accord.

At Saturday's event celebrating peace, Yitzhak Rabin eloquently stated, "There are enemies of the peace process, and they try to hurt us. But violence undermines democracy and must be denounced and isolated." We must ensure that from him we inherit a legacy of peace, not violence.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BE-REUTER). Pursuant to the order of the House of Tuesday, November 7, 1995, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the Senate concurrent resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 416, nays 0, as follows:

[Roll No. 769]

YEAS—416

Ackerman
Allard
Andrews
Archer
Army
Bachus
Baesler
Baker (CA)
Baker (LA)
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Becerra
Beilenson
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Bevill
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop
Billey
Blute
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonior
Bono
Borski
Boucher
Browder
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Brownback
Bryant (TN)
Bryant (TX)
Bunn
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Canady
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chapman
Chenoweth
Christensen
Chrysler
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clinger
Clyburn
Coble
Coburn
Coleman
Collins (GA)
Collins (IL)
Collins (MI)
Combest
Condit
Conyers
Cooley
Costello
Cox
Coyne
Cramer
Crane
Crapo
Creameans
Cubin
Cunningham
Danner
Davis
de la Garza
Deal
DeFazio
DeLauro
DeLay
Dellums
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart
Dickey

Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Dornan
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Durbin
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fattah
Fawell
Fazio
Fields (TX)
Filner
Flake
Flanagan
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fowler
Fox
Frank (MA)
Franks (CT)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frisa
Frost
Funderburk
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Graham
Green
Greenwood
Gunderson
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hancock
Hansen
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hefner
Heineman
Herger
Hillery
Hilliard
Hinche
Hobson
Hoekstra
Hoke
Holden
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson-Lee

Jacobs
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Johnston
Jones
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kasich
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kim
King
Kingston
Kleczka
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaFalce
LaHood
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Laughlin
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Lightfoot
Lincoln
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Longley
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Martinez
Martini
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McCollum
McCrery
McDade
McDermott
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McKeon
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Metcalf
Meyers
Mfume
Mica
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Molinari
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moorhead
Moran
Morella
Murtha
Myers
Nadler
Neal
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz

Orton
Owens
Oxley
Packard
Pallone
Parker
Pastor
Paxon
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Petri
Pickett
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Poshard
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Radanovich
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Regula
Richardson
Riggs
Rivers
Roberts
Roemer
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rose
Roth
Roukema
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Rush
Sabo
Salmon
Sanders

Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer
Schiff
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Seastrand
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Solomon
Souder
Spence
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stenholm
Stockman
Stokes
Studds
Stump
Stupak
Talent
Tanner
Tate
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Taylor (NC)

Tejeda
Thomas
Thompson
Thornberry
Thurman
Tiahrt
Torkildsen
Torres
Torrice
Towns
Traffant
Upton
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Volkmer
Waldholtz
Walker
Walsh
Wamp
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Watts (OK)
Waxman
Weldon (FL)
Weller
White
Whitfield
Wicker
Williams
Wilson
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wyden
Wynn
Yates
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Zeliff
Zimmer

NOT VOTING—16

Abercrombie
Brewster
Fields (LA)
Foglietta
Geren
Jefferson

Lantos
Moakley
Myrick
Peterson (FL)
Portman
Ramstad

□ 1335

Mr. ALLARD changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 769 on Senate Concurrent Resolution 31 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present I would have voted "Aye".

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the Senate concurrent resolution just concurred in.

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

There was no objection.