

strong United States military defending free people and our democratic system. Bob had vision and conviction and, Mr. Speaker, as we all know from looking at history, Bob Badham was right.

His work in Congress involved serious national security and international policy efforts, but all of us who worked with Bob remember that his sense of humor and sense of self never deserted him. He was a gracious colleague with a strong backbone and a big heart. I feel honored to have worked with Bob Badham and I am grateful for his friendship and his stellar service to this body and to the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, the thoughts and prayers I know of all of us here in the Congress are with his wife Anne; his daughters Phyllis, Sharon and Jennifer; his sons Robert, Jr. and William; their 11 grandchildren; and his brother.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DREIER. 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 in the RECORD as it relates to the passing of our friend Bob Badham.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING THE LATE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOSE M. ROSARIO AND OTHER VIRGIN ISLANDS WAR HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to Private First Class Jose M. Rosario from Estate Campo Rico on my home island of St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands who was killed in Iraq last week.

Private First Class Rosario joined the Army shortly after completing high school with the desire to serve his country and with the dream, whispered only to his older sister Ruth, of one day becoming an attorney. He told his family how much he loved his job, the adventure of it, and most of all the fact that he was making a contribution to our Nation. They have all attested that he was happy fulfilling his mission as a member of the Fifth Squadron, Seventh Cavalry Regiment, First Brigade Combat Team of the 42nd Infantry Division. Like so many of the now 2,000 men and women who have given their lives for their country in the Iraq war, Private First Class Rosario was young, just 20 years old, and with a dream of a brighter future. He died, along with Army Specialist Russell Nahvi of Arlington, Texas, and Sergeant Arthur

Mora, Jr. of Pico, California, when their up-armored humvee was hit with indirect fire while on patrol in Balad, Iraq. And while his lifetime was short, Jose served his country with courage and with distinction and he has made his family and the entire Virgin Islands community very proud as he helped to make the entire Nation a better place by his sacrifice. Our prayers are with his mother Gregoria and all of the family.

Mr. Speaker, we in the U.S. Virgin Islands along with our sister territories send more men and women per capita to serve in our Armed Forces, and Virgin Islanders have served in every war and conflict from the Revolutionary War forward. Our Virgin Islands National Guard has been proud to serve and do so with distinction around the world. They currently have several units in Afghanistan and Iraq. Dr. Bob Thompson, a good friend of mine and chief of medicine at the Governor Juan Luis Hospital, just returned from a tour in Iraq. Sixteen members of the 620th are scheduled to return home later this week. The 652nd Engineering Company is currently serving in Afghanistan and will be there for another 6 months.

While home in August, I attended a deployment ceremony where the 610th and the 640th companies of the Virgin Islands National Guard, many of them young women, were preparing to leave for Iraq. They are currently at Fort Bragg being processed and the 107 men and women of the 610th are to depart in early November. The 640th will follow them shortly thereafter.

In addition, Dr. Hinman, the State Surgeon of the Virgin Islands National Guard, is at Fort Bliss processing for his 90-day rotation, and we have an MP security team at Fort Leonard Wood, all preparing to also go to Iraq. I pray that they will all return safely and whole. I also pray that the President will begin now to bring all of our troops home.

With our population of just over 110,000, the U.S. Virgin Islands has already lost five young men before Private First Class Rosario.

Daniel Wyatt, whose family splits their time between Wisconsin and St. Croix, and who spent what he called the best 2 weeks of his life in St. Croix before heading overseas.

Shane Goldman, whose memorial I attended and who had a tree and a small monument placed at Club St. Croix, a place frequented by his father and which he loved to visit.

Private First Class Jason Lynch from a large St. Croix family and the nephew of a close friend of mine Betty Lynch, a child I knew as he was growing up.

Staff Sergeant Kendall Thomas, slightly older than the others, from St. Thomas and I believe serving his second tour. We are proud of the men and women who have given their lives in service to their country.

We are particularly proud of Private First Class Jose M. Rosario and all of

the men and women from the U.S. Virgin Islands who have served or now serve. They do so proudly and with great dedication and loyalty. I would be remiss if I did not here note that neither they nor their fellow Virgin Islanders have the right to vote for the Commander in Chief, something which we are seeking to correct with House Joint Resolution 1, which I introduced on the opening day of this 109th Congress.

It is my hope that their sacrifice and that of all the other Virgin Islanders and American citizens in the offshore territories will be honored with its passage and ratification. May their example and that of all of our fallen resonate in all of our hearts and our country in their memory turn to peace and away from war.

TIME TO END THE WAR IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, 2,000 American troops have now lost their lives in Iraq. It is time to end this war. Let us bring our troops home and restore U.S. credibility in the world community. This war was based on fiction. That is a fact that is no longer disputed. There were no weapons of mass destruction and no ties to al Qaeda. There was no imminent threat. This administration, with the acquiescence of Congress, rushed into a war that, according to Secretary of State Colin Powell's former chief of staff Lawrence Wilkerson, has made our country more vulnerable, not less, to future crisis.

The Bush administration has stubbornly refused to reassess the situation. They have refused to listen to the words of military and diplomatic leaders who have warned that a continuing U.S. presence in Iraq will not calm the violence or lead to a more stable Iraq. The U.S. presence in Iraq is now a major part of the problem. Al Qaeda is in Iraq today because we are there. The abuse and torture by U.S. forces of detainees at Abu Ghraib prison and the near 3-year occupation by U.S. troops have made us an unpopular force in Iraq even among those who originally supported the U.S. invasion. We have spent over \$300 billion on the war with no end in sight. It is estimated that another 2 years of war will boost that amount to \$1 trillion. Our military is stretched to the limit, with much of the burden falling on our Guard and Reserves.

There are some politicians in Washington who say that, no matter what, we must "stay the course." I strongly disagree. It is worth pointing out that it is not Congressmen, Senators or members of the Bush administration whose lives are on the line in battle. It takes no courage for anybody in Washington to wave the American flag and

send more troops. We owe our brave fighting men and women so much more. Washington made a mistake in going to war. It is time for politicians to admit that mistake and fix it before any more lives are lost.

"In Vietnam, we didn't have the lesson of Vietnam to guide us," says David Halberstam, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of that war. He goes on to say, "In Iraq we did have those lessons. The tragedy is that we didn't pay any attention to them."

Mr. Speaker, we have now sacrificed the lives of 2,000 members of our Armed Forces in Iraq. Thousands of others are wounded. Tens of thousands of civilians from Iraq and elsewhere have died since the U.S. entered Baghdad and ostensibly took control of the nation.

This week I am introducing a resolution to prohibit the use of taxpayer funds to deploy United States Armed Forces to Iraq. This bill, however, will allow funds to be used for the safe and orderly withdrawal of our troops. It will allow us to support transitional security provided by other countries, including international organizations like NATO and the United Nations. The bill will also allow for continued support for Iraqi security forces and international forces in Iraq, as well as funding for reconstruction efforts. This is not a cut and run strategy. Rather, it is a way to support efforts that I believe can be more helpful in creating a more stable Iraq. But the bill makes clear, no more U.S. boots on the ground in Iraq. Ultimately, the future of Iraq will depend on whether the various factions in the country genuinely and truly want to live with each other. No constitution or election can fully determine that outcome.

This war has cost us dearly in terms of human life and treasure. At a time when we are shortchanging our veterans here at home, our schools, health care and even our homeland security, it makes no sense to throw good money after bad in this quagmire in Iraq. Sometimes great nations misstep, as I believe we have done in this case. It is now time to ask the tough questions and face the hard truths. It is time to end this war.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Glory be to You, O Lord, for all the blessings of the earth and the protected freedoms of this our country. As people celebrate Octoberfest, Sukkot and harvest festivals, we are mindful of the bounty so many of us share in this Nation. Yet we will not forget those who hunger not only for food but for shelter and safety as well, here in our country, but also around the world.

May our gratitude for Your many gifts make us joyful but not selfish. May our blessings make us gracious and kind to those who are in most need of our attention. Let largesse open our hearts and not delay.

Enable Congress to help the American people use natural resources wisely and maximize human resources for the common good. To You be honor, praise and thanksgiving now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 1409. An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in developing countries, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1382. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to accept the conveyance of certain land, to be held in trust for the benefit of the Puyallup Indian tribe.

S. 1905. An act to clarify Foreign Service Grievance Board procedures.

ROSA PARKS

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say today we live in an age of heroes. Not so long ago it seemed like we did not have heroes anymore, but today heroes seem to be plentiful. Our soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan are

risking their lives every day so that people half a world away can live in peace and democracy.

Our first responders on September 11 proved that hundreds of people can rise up jointly in one great act of heroism. Todd Beamer and the other heroes of Flight 93 are soon to be featured in films. Difficult times require heroes, and America has always risen to the challenge.

Today we are remembering another difficult time, the era of Jim Crow and racial bigotry, and we are remembering that gentle and humble woman who would not give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama; that one act of courage sparked a boycott which led to a movement which has changed the lives of every American.

Rosa Parks was a real, genuine hero, the kind of American our Nation has always produced when tough times required it. Today I am sure she is hearing the words, well done, good and faithful servant.

HONORING DEPUTY SHERIFF PATRICK NEAL

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Deputy Sheriff Patrick Neal of the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department. He was recently named the Top Cop by the National Association of Police Organizations, and yesterday I had a chance to meet this hero. His exemplary actions took place in August 2004 when he tracked a wanted felon to a suspect's neighborhood and found him standing by his truck.

The criminal took out a pistol and opened fire on Deputy Sheriff Neal from nearly point-blank range. In the exchange, Deputy Sheriff Neal was shot six times. The criminal was shot four times, falling to the ground, causing him to lose his weapon. However, he tried to crawl and gain his gun again, determined to kill Deputy Sheriff Neal.

Having been struck in the face and nearly blacking out due to blood loss, Deputy Sheriff Neal mustered everything he had and fired one last time, ending the confrontation for good.

Mr. Speaker, modern-day heroes are very rare. Deputy Sheriff Neal is as close as they come. His selflessness and courage under fire epitomized what it means to be a public servant hero. On behalf of my constituents, I thank Deputy Sheriff Neal for his dedicated service to his community, our State and our Nation.

PASSAGE OF IRAQ CONSTITUTION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, we continue to hear more good news about Iraq's steps to build a civil society opposing terrorism.