

I offer my deepest condolences to his family during this time. I, along with the other members of the Maryland Federal delegation, mourn their loss.

Our prayers are with his wife Suzette; his 4-year-old son Jordan; his parents Cecil and Olive Bailey; his brother Aldean Lindo; and three sisters, Ann-Marie Richards, Ava, and Shane Prince.

Sergeant Prince was one of Maryland's finest citizens. I did not know him personally; however, we share an inseparable bond as graduates of Baltimore City College High School. It was at City College where Sergeant Prince decided to pursue a career in the military. He wanted to serve his country and give something back to a Nation that had given so much to him.

Sergeant Prince took his job as a member of our armed services very seriously. It is evident that he accepted each challenge with valor and dignity, regardless of the inherent dangers involved.

While he was in Korea last year, a sergeant in another unit with the same job had a back injury, and Sergeant Prince was assigned to replace him when that unit was deployed to Iraq.

This brave young American knew of the perils of the high-risk areas into which was being sent, but he was proud to be a soldier. He was proud that, by serving in the United States Army, he was not only making a better life for himself, but he was trying to make a better life, a safer life for us all.

When his family expressed justifiable concerns about his safety in Iraq, Sergeant Prince responded with the quiet confidence that defined him. He said, "That is what I joined the Army to do. It is simply my job."

Mr. Speaker, the deadly consequences of war are a reality that we must all face. However, the knowledge of what may happen in war does little to diminish the pain, the anguish when that reality reaches your front door.

Sergeant Prince had three loves in his life: his wife, his son, and his sports. Needless to say, his wife and son will miss him immensely. How do you comfort a wife who has lost her lifelong partner, confidant and friend? How do you calm the fears of a 4-year-old boy who must now come to terms with the fact that his father will never return home? And when young Jordan Prince scores his first touchdown or hits his first home run, his dad will not be in the stands to cheer him on to victory. Jordan has lost his father, the one who is supposed to teach him how to become a man.

Perhaps there is no consolation for a loss so deep. However, there are memories to help ease the pain. This Maryland family has the memories of a man who loved them dearly and loved being a soldier. He had a vision for his life and followed that vision with intensity.

Many of us who are blessed with longevity will spend years upon years never feeling fulfilled and never doing

what we were born to do. There is comfort in knowing that during his brief stay on this Earth, Sergeant Prince lived a life of purpose.

Finally, there is little doubt that his parents named him for the famous astronaut Neil Armstrong because they wanted him to be a part of a legacy of bravery and triumph. They hoped his achievements would pierce the stratosphere and reach out onward to the Moon, just like the astronaut before him. There would be no limit to Sergeant Prince's potential in this country.

They were right. Neil Armstrong Prince reached for the stars. Like all of our men and women in armed services, his courage and his commitment to the defense of our great country were almost not earthly.

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

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CENTRAL AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, 1 year and 1 month ago, President Bush signed the Central American Free Trade Agreement, a cousin of the North American Free Trade Agreement, which would extend the same NAFTA-type trade provisions to six countries, five in Central America and the Dominican Republic.

Unlike every other trade agreement which President Bush has signed, Morocco, Chile, Singapore and Australia, which were signed and voted on by Congress within 60 days, the Central American Free Trade Agreement has simply languished in the halls of Congress. The President has not brought it forward to vote on, in large part because the people of this body, a majority of the Members of Congress, will not vote for it. And here is why.

It is pretty clear, Mr. Speaker that our trade policy is not working. In 1992, the year I ran for Congress, we had a \$38 billion trade deficit, meaning we sold \$38 billion less than we imported, exported less than we imported, \$38 billion. Today, or 2004, that number had increased to \$618 billion, from \$38 billion to \$618 billion in a dozen years.

Mr. Speaker, maybe that is just numbers, but when you look at the trade deficit, and you know what it means, it has meant in large part a huge loss of manufacturing jobs. Just in the last 6 years these States in red have all lost at least 20 percent of their manufacturing. Michigan, 210,000; Ohio, 216,000; Illinois, 224,000; Pennsylvania, 200,000; Mississippi and Alabama 130,000; North Carolina, 228,000. States in the purple here, dark blue, purple, have lost 15 to 20 percent of their manufacturing jobs.

It is clear, Mr. Speaker, that our trade policy is not working. Now, because of that and because the President cannot get nearly enough votes to pass the Central American Free Trade Agreement, they have begun to negotiate side deals, and they have promised bridges and highways as they did in 2001 on the last big trade vote in this Congress, something called trade promotion authority. They have promised to change CAFTA and do something down the road. Trust us, vote for it, and then we will make some provisions later down to help sugar, help textile, to help the steel industry, to protect jobs, to perhaps bring up living standards in Central America.

The latest promise that they have made is to offer \$20 million for enforcement of labor standards. This is the same administration that has cut labor standards in the United States and has dropped the funding for the Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs from \$148 million 4 years ago down to 12 million. They want to put \$20 million back.

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We can play with numbers, but the fact is the enforcement of labor standards in Central America is basically nonexistent under CAFTA and under the President's plans.

At the same time, the International Labor Organization sets standards agreed on by all countries around the world to lift up labor standards so that workers can make a decent wage, that workers can bargain and organize collectively. The ILO standards prohibit child labor, prohibit forced labor, all the kinds of values that we in this country share with our colleagues and our workers in our families. With all of that, the administration is one of only two countries out of 80 in the world that is not fully supporting the ILO and what it wants to do in Geneva with its funding, with its programs, with all that.

So it is pretty clear, Mr. Speaker, that the \$20 million offer to support labor standards is just a fig leaf to try to convince a few Members of Congress to vote for the Central American Free Trade Agreement.

While all those deals have been going on, Mr. Speaker, a group of us had a rally today at the Cannon building in Washington, a group of legislators from the United States and a group of legislators from Central America. They rallied against the Central American Free Trade Agreement, not to kill it but to defeat this Central American Free Trade Agreement and come back with a better Central American Free Trade Agreement that protects the environment, that helps working people in both countries. All of us together have called on Congress to pass a better Central American Free Trade Agreement.

These legislators from our country and from seven countries in Central America and Latin America understand that this CAFTA protects drug companies while harming the sick and the poor. They understand this CAFTA protects the world's largest corporations while hurting small businesses and working families. They understand this trade agreement protects huge industries while undermining the environment.

They understand that they want and have called for a CAFTA that lifts workers up and raises living standards, a CAFTA that protects people the same way it protects property rights and the drug industry, a CAFTA that allows HIV patients access to affordable, life-saving drugs.

They understand, most importantly, that CAFTA was negotiated by a select few to benefit only a select few, not the masses of people in our country and the other six CAFTA countries.

It is past time to renegotiate a trade agreement that works for all citizen of all seven CAFTA Nations.

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

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SMART SECURITY AND THE BRIDGE TO NOWHERE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, the Defense appropriations bill that will be on the House floor tomorrow contains \$45 billion in emergency bridge funding to pay for the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

This money is called bridge funding because it will bridge the funding gap between the most recent \$79 billion supplemental spending bill for Iraq, which Congress passed in February, and the next one, sometime this fall.

This bridge fund is like a bridge to nowhere. The latest \$45 billion for the war in Iraq is just the Bush administration's latest grab into the big congressional money bag, the Defense appropriations bill, because it is virtually hidden in a huge \$400 billion Defense appropriations bill. This is outrageous.

An additional \$45 billion for the war in Iraq is a staggering amount. This bridge fund comes on top of the emergency supplemental bill that was approved a mere 4-months ago, allocating another \$79 billion for the war, bringing the costs of the war to over \$200 billion before this new \$45 billion expenditure.

The bridge fund represents the fifth time Congress will fund the war in Iraq without hearings, without oversight and without accountability.

\$45 billion is not insignificant. It is several billion dollars more than the President requested for homeland security funding for fiscal year 2006. In fact, it is more than the President has requested for homeland security in any year since the Department of Homeland Security was established in the year 2001.

It would be one thing if the President actually had a plan to bring our troops home, but after more than 2 years and over 1,700 American troops being killed, he still has not come to the table with a plan. Mr. Speaker, since the President will not come up with a plan for Iraq, we will have to. It will have to come from the Congress.

This unpopular war is a lose-lose. It is America's very presence in Iraq that unites the strong insurgency, a whole new generation of terrorists, whose common bond is their hatred for the United States and its aggressive militarism.

Once we have a plan in place to end the war, we can begin the long process of helping Iraq rebuild its failing physical and economic infrastructure, and we can accomplish this while we are at the same time preventing future wars through SMART security.

SMART security, which has the support of 50 Members of Congress is a Sensible, Multilateral, American Response to Terrorism for the 21st Century, and it will help us address the threats we face as a Nation.

SMART security will ensure America's security by reaching out and engaging the Iraqi people. Instead of rushing off to war for the wrong reasons, SMART security encourages the United States to work with other Nations to address the most pressing global issues.

Not every international problem has militaries, and that is why SMART security will prevent terrorism, by addressing the very conditions which give rise to terrorism: poverty, despair, resource scarcity and lack of education.

This is the best way to encourage democracy in countries like Iraq, not through wars, not through the barrel of a gun, not through ways that cause thousands of unnecessary deaths and costs billions and billions of dollars.

The Bush administration needs to get smart about Iraq, and take a long, hard look at the effects of our policies there. We can end the war, we can bring our troops home, and we can do it by creating a plan to bring them home.

The U.S. soldiers who are serving in Iraq deserve nothing less. Bringing the troops home will help secure Iraq. It will save the lives of thousands of Americans, and it is time that we do not put any other excuses in front of us because we must start this process, and we must start it today.

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

(Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire addressed the House. His remarks will

appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

VENDING MACHINE SAFETY ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the introduction of a bill that I dropped in yesterday, the Vending Machine Safety Act of 2005. This is a bill I introduced three Congresses ago due to its importance in protecting our children.

Imagine going on a routine grocery shopping trip with your child, Mr. Speaker. While shopping, you suddenly notice that your child is missing. This is every parent's nightmare. Last month, this nightmare became a frightening reality for a mother in Indiana. However, in this incident, there was a twist.

Her 3-year-old child was found trapped in a crane vending machine that he had crawled into. Without safety measures and immediate access to the owner, the machine held the young boy captive until the local fire department was brought in to release him.

While this event was not life-threatening, about one-third of vending machine injuries reported since 1978 have been. In the interest of protecting both children and adults, it is the reason I introduced the Vending Machine Safety Act.

This Vending Machine Safety Act of 2005 directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue a consumer product safety standard for the manufacturing and installation of all vending machines. Whether in signage or further protective measures, the Consumer Product Safety Commission will report on how best to ensure the safety uses of these vending machines that are both cost-effective for manufacturers and protect the stores from liability.

Since 1990, 43 vending machine injuries have been reported to the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Almost 60 percent of these vending injuries involved minors, and almost 35 percent of the injuries were children under 10. While some vending machine manufacturers may place warnings on their machines, most do not.

The need to protect our children from further vending machine related injuries is clear. I ask my colleagues to support the Vending Machine Safety Act of 2005.

HENRY HYDE UNITED NATIONS REFORM ACT OF 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.