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At the heart of SMART is the belief that military action should be an absolute last resort, to be reluctantly pursued only after every channel has been exhausted.

SMART Security means fighting terrorism with strong diplomacy, robust multilateral alliances, and improved intelligence capabilities. It means being vigilant about nuclear proliferation and the spread of other weapons of mass destruction. It means more investment in homeland security and energy independence, and less in obsolete, Cold War weapons systems. And SMART Security is about attacking terrorism at its very roots with an ambitious, international development agenda that brings education, debt relief, democracy-building, and economic development to the impoverished nations of the world.

SMART is tough, pragmatic, and patriotic. It protects America by relying on the very best of American values: our commitment to freedom, our compassion for the people of the world, and our capacity for global leadership.

Mr. Speaker, there was nothing smart about a war plan that tried to cut corners by sending in too few soldiers. In fact, there is nothing smart at all about this war. Nearly 2,000 Americans dead, a recharged insurgency, political and economic chaos in Iraq, and no end in sight; an immoral war, a dishonest war and, now, even a senior Pentagon official, Douglas Feith, admits, a mismanaged war. That is strike three, they are out.

DEFENDING THE HONOR OF OUR TROOPS

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

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the protection we have enjoyed here at home since we took the fight to the enemy has been purchased with the sacrifices of our men and women in uniform. The very least we can do in return is to show them honor and respect when they come home.

According to the Greensboro Herald-Journal, middle school teacher Michael Lund of Anita White Carson Middle School in Greensboro, Georgia had that intention when he invited his old college roommate, Marine Sgt Zach Richardson to speak to his middle school students about his experiences in Iraq.

The children in Mr. Lund's class had been pen pals with Sergeant Richardson and several of his fellow Marines in Iraq, so everyone was excited about finally getting to meet in person.

Imagine the surprise when he and Mr. Lund were intercepted outside the classroom by School Principal Ulrica Corbett. She demanded Mr. Lund escort Sergeant Richardson off school grounds immediately.

Principal Corbett later told the media that Mr. Lund did not have approval for a guest speaker to come on campus.

Mr. Lund produced documentation to prove that he had indeed filed the necessary paperwork well in advance, and that Principal Corbett refused to act on it.

Regardless of the reason, this treatment of one of our heroes returning from Iraq is unacceptable and inexcusable.

Under no circumstances should Sergeant Richardson have been denied the opportunity to speak to the students with whom he had been corresponding.

But just as damaging as the disrespect shown to Sergeant Richardson was the impact of this disrespect on the 6th grade students who were waiting to welcome this veteran.

They witnessed their Principal kick a Marine just back from the front off school property, giving our children a real-life lesson in disrespecting our military.

We have a lesson to teach at Anna White Carson Middle School—and across this country. That lesson should be that disrespect for America's service men and women by public officials will simply not be tolerated by the people of this country.

But before we scream too loudly about the speck in the eye of Greene County public schools, we need to take a look at the log in the eye of this Congress.

Senator DICK DURBIN of Illinois stood on the floor of our Senate and compared our military prisons to those of Nazi Germany.

Members of this Congress have whined about whether a book was mistreated at Guantanamo, while the comrades of those Guantanamo prisoners cut the heads off innocent, unarmed, civilian prisoners in their custody.

Any reasonable person can see that comments such as these plant seeds of disdain against America, here and abroad.

Are these comments and actions against our military forces now actually encouraging new attacks by our enemies in London and Baghdad?

Madam Speaker, we cannot win this war if we continue to allow a handful of public officials to undermine our efforts with irresponsible comments and actions without paying a price—here and all across our country.

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the time of the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Miss MCMORRIS). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF FIRST LIEUTENANT MICHAEL FASNACHT

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of First Lieutenant Michael Fasnacht, who served in the Third Infantry Division from Fort Benning, Georgia.

Lieutenant Fasnacht died when a roadside bomb exploded near his Brad-

ley Fighting Vehicle while he was on patrol near Adwar, Iraq on June 8. Lieutenant Fasnacht was a native of Janesville, Minnesota who served his country honorably. He lived in Mankato, Minnesota with his wife, Tresa.

An Army Ranger, Michael had followed in the footsteps of his father, Raymond, who served in the Army during the Vietnam War. He graduated from Minnesota State University in Mankato, Minnesota. He developed his leadership skills as an outstanding member of the ROTC program. Lieutenant Fasnacht's mother, Marny, said, "He believed strongly in what he was doing. He definitely believed the Iraqi people deserved freedom from tyranny."

Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I honor the memory and service of this brave American. Michael Fasnacht made the ultimate sacrifice in the selfless defense of freedom and democracy. Today, the lamp of liberty burns brightly across the globe, thanks to young men like Lieutenant Fasnacht who are serving on the front lines. Indeed, these Americans in uniform are the new "Boys of Pointe du Hoc."

Like countless Americans before them, these men and women know firsthand what President Bush meant when he said that "freedom isn't America's gift to the world; freedom is God's gift to mankind." Everywhere the embers of freedom burn hot, people like Michael Fasnacht are there to give the embers flame.

I thank Lieutenant Fasnacht for his service, and I thank the Fasnacht family for giving their loved one to this service. I hope it brings them some comfort to know that the thoughts and prayers of thousands of Minnesotans are with them.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my Special Order at this time.

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

There was no objection.

FUNDING FOR MASS TRANSIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff came before our Committee on Homeland Security with his second review of the agency. It was an impressive review. Of course, the promise lies in the implementation, but he has done a competent job there.

Astonishingly, though, Madam Speaker, he mentioned not one word about London or about the vulnerability of rail and public transportation in the United States, even