

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

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

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN).

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

There was no objection.

SMART SECURITY

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on April 20 of last year, I spoke in this Chamber in opposition to the war in Iraq and my belief that we needed a new SMART Security plan to protect America.

Since then nearly every day that this body has been in session, I have again taken to the floor to express my outrage about our Nation's disastrous Iraq policy and the urgency for a different approach. Today I rise for the 100th time on this gravely important topic.

Since I first spoke out last spring, look at what has happened: The Abu Ghraib story broke soon thereafter. We learned that the Pentagon sent our troops into battle without basic safety equipment. The Downing Street memo revealed that the decision to invade Iraq had been made as early as July 2002 with the intelligence and facts being fixed around the policy. And they were so committed to the lies peddled to sell this war that the President's top aide was willing to blow the cover of a CIA agent to smear a White House critic. And most importantly, since last April more than 1,000 Americans have made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq, with thousands more wounded, and let us not forget the countless innocent Iraqi civilians who have died simply because they had the misfortune of living in a nation we wished to occupy.

And what have we paid for the right to kill and be killed? More than \$80 billion in supplemental appropriations for Iraq since last April alone. Since then America and Americans have gradually begun losing confidence in the administration's handling of Iraq. Fifteen months ago when I began, few people dared discuss an end to this war; but by this May, 128 Members of the House voted for my amendment to the defense authorization bill which called on the President to develop and implement a plan to withdraw our troops from Iraq as soon as possible. Unfortunately, the Bush administration remains tone-deaf on this life-and-death issue.

This White House, so famous for refusing to admit mistakes, continues to keep its head down and recite the talking points. Their stubbornness is costing us an average of about 17 American servicemen and women a week and over \$1 billion every third day. Over this period I have become even more convinced that we must end this war and bring our brave men and women home to their families as quickly as we can. But that is not enough.

The end to the war must mean the start of a whole new way of thinking about national security, like my SMART Security plan, with SMART standing for sensible, multilateral American response to terrorism.

At the core of SMART is the belief that the use of military force must be an absolute last resort to be pursued only in the most extreme circumstances. SMART recognizes that America faces threats that cannot be ignored, like terrorism and the spread of deadly weapons; but it would address these threats by strengthening our global alliances, improving our intelligence capabilities, and upgrading weapons inspections regimes. SMART would also redirect the money we are currently spending on outdated Cold War weapons systems towards homeland security and an energy independence plan. And SMART is based on the belief that the only way to truly address terrorism is to do something about the poverty and despair that gives rise to terrorism in the first place.

So SMART also includes an ambitious international development component, helping underdeveloped nations with democracy building, human rights education, conflict resolution, sustainable development of natural resources and more.

SMART protects America by relying on the very best of America, not violence and conquests, but our capacity for global leadership, our belief in freedom, and our compassion for vulnerable people around the world.

This first step is to return Iraq to the Iraqi people and return our troops to their families. Until that happens, I will continue to speak out in this Chamber as I have done 100 times. It is my sincere hope, Mr. Speaker, that I will not have to speak 100 times more, but if I must, I will.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. OTTER).

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

There was no objection.

OPENING DOORS WITH CAFTA-DR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, as the House prepares to take up the Central American Dominican Republic Free Trade Agreement, CAFTA-DR, this week, I urge my colleagues to render their full support for this measure.

This is an agreement that is not solely about trade, but also about saving lives and furthering the spread of democracy in the world. Passing CAFTA-DR has many positive and far-reaching implications. It promotes U.S. national security objectives in our own backyard by opening markets and fostering economic development, which are the critical weapons in fighting the conditions that breed instability and terrorism. By supporting CAFTA-DR, we will be giving the people of the countries included under the agreement the hope for change and for progress.

CAFTA-DR is not only vitally important to the future of the Central American nations and to the Dominican Republic, but to our own economic well-being and overall strategic considerations. By expanding exports, by lowering the trade deficit, CAFTA-DR creates jobs. Today nearly 80 percent of the products from Central America and the Dominican Republic and 99 percent of the agricultural products already enter the United States duty free. America's markets are already open. But Americans who wish to sell to Central America and the DR, on the other hand, face high tariffs. CAFTA-DR eliminates those foreign taxes, opening the region's markets to goods, services and farm products from the United States.

U.S. investors have invested billions of dollars overseas, stimulating trade. U.S. investors must be treated fairly in foreign markets like Central America if the system is to work fairly. The passage of CAFTA-DR in my home State of Florida would have far-reaching positive implications. Collectively the countries of CAFTA-DR are Florida's largest export destinations. Even individually CAFTA-DR markets are important trading partners for my home State of Florida. CAFTA-DR would provide enhanced market access to the Dominican Republic and to Central America as it will boost opportunities for Florida exporters throughout the region, providing new market access for the State's products.

CAFTA-DR will further obligate our trading partners to bring their laws and their regulations up to U.S. standards in areas such as the regulation of services, investments, intellectual