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Similarly, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates all have a national security interest in keeping Persian Gulf shipping lanes open to transport the oil they produce and sell. Hence, each of these countries is justified in using military force to defend their shipping lanes at their own risk and at their own cost.

Clearly, then, other nations have a far greater national security interest in Persian Gulf oil and shipping lanes than does the United States. As such, these nations should be primarily responsible for using military force as is necessary to protect their national security interests.

Madam Speaker, America must stop being the world's policeman on every corner of the planet. America must stop burning through our treasury and risking our American lives when we have no compelling security interest in a dispute. This is particularly true when those nations that do have a national security interest don't care enough about their own national security interest to protect them.

While America can and should help our allies, it is equally important that America's allies put up their own defense capabilities, protect their own national security interests, and shoulder their own share of military burdens.

If countries with a national security interest in Persian Gulf shipping lanes act as a unified force to protect them, and if they ask for America's assistance, America should then, and only then, consider military assistance. Unless that happens, this is not America's fight.

Of course, should Iran attack Americans or their property, or should Iran attack and kill any of our allies' citizens, an entirely different set of considerations come into play, and Iran will not like America's response to those kinds of attacks.

COMMEMORATING OKLAHOMANS IN SPACE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. LEE of California). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Ms. KENDRA S. HORN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about Oklahomans in space.

Born in Oklahoma's Fifth Congressional District in Shawnee, retired Air Force Colonel Gordon Cooper was one of the first Mercury astronauts. In 1962, he served as a backup for the *Sigma 7* mission. A year later, he circled Earth 22 times in the space capsule *Faith 7*, completing the sixth and last of the Mercury manned spaceflights.

He also served as a command pilot of *Gemini 5* on an 8-day endurance mis-

sion. This not only made him the first person to make two orbital flights, but he also set an endurance record on this mission of nearly 191 hours.

Before becoming an astronaut with NASA, Colonel Cooper earned a commission with the U.S. Army in the late 1940s and then transferred to the Air Force where he received a bachelor of science degree in aeronautics from the Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio.

If you visit the National Portrait Gallery in D.C., you will see a picture of Colonel Cooper as one of NASA's Mercury Seven astronauts. I am proud to honor his memory, legacy, and history-making achievements in space.

Madam Speaker, women astronauts from Oklahoma have also made critical contributions to our Nation's space program. Jerrie Cobb and Shannon Lucid are two of those pioneers who paved the way in space and aeronautics.

Cobb is considered one of the most gifted female pilots in history and a fierce advocate for women astronauts. Born in Norman, Oklahoma, and a graduate from Oklahoma City's Classen High School, Cobb became the first woman to fly in the Paris Air Show and was among the first women certified to be an astronaut as a member of the little-known Mercury 13 in the early 1960s. She testified before Congress in 1962, urging lawmakers to allow women to go into space.

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Though she never got to leave the Earth's atmosphere, Cobb helped pave the way for future generations of women astronauts like fellow Oklahoman and astronaut, Dr. Shannon Lucid. I pause to honor the memory of Dr. Cobb today, as she passed away 3 months ago at the age of 88.

Lady astronaut Dr. Shannon Lucid, a Congressional District Five resident, graduated from Bethany High School. Among the first six women astronauts selected by NASA, Dr. Lucid became an astronaut in 1979. Not only did she fly on five spaceflights, she is also the only American woman to serve aboard the Mir Space Station.

Before Peggy Whitson broke the record of the number of hours in space, Dr. Lucid set the record with 5,354 hours in space. In December of 1996, she became the first woman to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for her record-breaking service aboard the Mir, and she retired from NASA in 2012.

Because of the glass ceiling shattered by Jerrie Cobb and Dr. Shannon Lucid, generations of women can and do now follow in their footsteps.

HONORING FRANK LAMERE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank LaMere, who died last Sunday night.

A member of the Winnebago Tribe, Frank was proud of his heritage and worked tirelessly for the Native American community. Frank spent the majority of his life fighting for Native American causes and, as a result, was known across Nebraska and other States for his determined efforts.

I had the opportunity of interacting with Frank for several years and was always impressed by the civility he showed, his respect for others, and, most of all, how considerate and thoughtful he was.

Frank had an interest in politics and policy and sought to build relationships with folks on both sides of the aisle. He was devoted to making life better for others and was a role model in his civic engagement.

Frank will be dearly missed, but the people of South Sioux City, Nebraska, and the entire State will remember him for his loyalty, his passion, and his ability to build friendships along the way.

Madam Speaker, I offer my condolences to his family and community.

WAR POWERS RESIDE IN THE U.S. CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. And still I rise, Madam Speaker, because I love my country and because I have reason to be concerned, and I believe that every American has reason to be concerned about the issue that I shall address today.

Those of us who are in the House of Representatives should be especially concerned because the issue involves war and peace. It involves the sons and daughters of Mr. and Mrs. America—war and peace.

We have, by and through our Chief Executive Officer, the President of the United States of America, caused a *Nimitz*-class battle group to go into the Gulf region.

For those who do not know, this is the ultimate expression of American military prowess, a *Nimitz*-class battle group. Above it, we have the generationally reliable B-52 bomber. They can rain lethality on anything within their range. Beneath the battle group, you have, lurking, a submarine that can launch without surfacing.

But the centerpiece of a *Nimitz*-class battle group, especially this one, is the USS *Abraham Lincoln*. The *Abraham Lincoln* is an aircraft carrier that is 1,092 feet long. It can carry 90 fixed- and rotary-winged aircraft. The *Abraham Lincoln* has two A-4 Westinghouse nuclear reactors. When it is fueled and it is sent out on a mission, it does not have to come back for 25 years. It is the centerpiece of American military prowess.

To borrow a term from where I grew up, you don't send the *Abraham Lincoln* if you are shucking. You send it when