

our Patriot 3 system which we are now in the business of fielding, we have tested it, would be able to handle that attack and allow our young men and women to come home alive.

So we established that. Now, General Kadish, having established that, showed the members of the Committee on Armed Services the footage of a number of tests that we have made. He said, We have missed some; and we have hit some. He laid out a program that we need to undertake in the next 5–10 years to develop a capability that is better and better. We are moving ahead. We are going to have robust testing. We are going to defend America.

FATHER'S DAY IS ABOUT MORE THAN PRESENTS

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

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, all over America we are hearing the words, "Happy Father's Day." I come to the floor this afternoon to remind America that Father's Day is about more than presents. What are the children without fathers to do?

Fully a third of our children in our country are without fathers, being raised by one parent, usually a woman. The numbers are increasing at an alarming rate. The only thing harder than raising children is one parent raising children. Often that is the case today. If there are one-third of children without fathers today in the home, in the African American community that number is two-thirds.

The results are appalling to family formation. Chronic joblessness among black males, disproportionate numbers in prison which keep family formation from occurring in the usual way, led me to search for answers. I have been involved in a number of activities, and the most recent was inspired by the Million Man March in 1995. I was concerned that something concrete should come out of this march to capture the energy of almost a million African American men coming to Washington to indicate they were going to do something about reconstruction of their communities and of black family life itself.

Yet when they went home and said what am I to do, well, some in fact found lots to do. But for the average unaffiliated black man, there was nothing to capture that energy.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that government and business and unions and communities ought to have a response so that this energy could be used to the highest and best effect. I conceived the idea of a commission on black men and boys that would allow black men and boys in the District of Columbia to get together to indicate what to do and how to do it. Recently we received funding from the Department of Labor.

This commission, set up in the District of Columbia, will be holding hearings; will identify available sources of government and community and private assistance for black men and boys in the District of Columbia; and will point out what the successes are and what the needs and gaps are. The point is it is not another study, ladies and gentlemen. We know the problem is acute. This is an opportunity to get down to brass tacks, tackling one of the great problems in our country which is fatherlessness, one-parent homes in the African American community, rapidly spreading throughout the United States.

George Stark, the former Redskins offensive lineman, is the chair. We have one of our former police chiefs on the commission, the president of the District of Columbia student body, a high school representative, and other men in the city who have been involved in the activities of black men and boys.

The most important manifestation of the accumulated difficulties of African American men is the failure to form families and extraordinary patterns of family disillusion. This is a frightening trend that is traced to an essential actor in the African American community: the black male. We cannot do without him. Black feminists like me have been able to draw attention to what has happened to the women raising these children alone, what happens to girls who get pregnant when they are teens. We are bringing that down. It is time to focus on the black man, the other essential actor.

When we do so, we can halt this frightening trend which is already having domino generational effects that endanger the children of the African American community. Further delay in bringing a strong, concentrated focus on black men and boys before they become men quite simply threatens the viability of the African American community as we have known it historically in our country from slavery to this very moment.

We hope that our own Commission on Black Men and Boys here in the District of Columbia will serve as a model for what other communities can do to bring a focused attention led by black men and boys themselves on an urgent problem in the African American community and in America at large.

REBUILD MILITARY TO ENSURE THAT FREEDOM AND NATIONAL SECURITY ARE PROTECTED

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) was on the floor just a few minutes ago talking about missile defense systems and the need for missile defense systems.

I would like to speak today about some of the activities of China selling

military wares to Cuba. In my district, and I have the privilege to represent the third district of North Carolina, we have Camp Lejeune Marine Base, Cherry Point Marine Air Station, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, and actually a Coast Guard base in Elizabeth City. I am proud to represent a district where there are so many men and women in uniform that are willing to die for this country; and certainly those who are retired, veterans and retirees, I thank them for their service.

I am concerned that too many times we in this country take our freedoms for granted, and that is somewhat normal. But having a military district and being on the Committee on Armed Services, along with the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER), I am concerned that too many times we, as Americans, take freedom for granted. This is a very unsafe world we live in. There is a need to spend money to rebuild the military to ensure that the freedoms that we enjoy and the national security of this Nation, that we are well protected.

I want to bring up a couple of points. This is a Washington Times article from Wednesday, March 28, 2001. Admiral Blair was speaking to the Senate Committee on Armed Services, and he warns of perilous buildup of Chinese missiles. I want to read this quickly.

Mr. Speaker, the commander of U.S. forces in the U.S. Pacific told Congress yesterday that "'China's ongoing missile buildup opposite Taiwan is destabilizing, and will lead to a U.S. response unless halted. Over the long term, the most destabilizing part of the Chinese buildup are the immediate-range and short-range ballistic missiles, the CSS-6's and 7's, of the type that were used in 1996 to find the waters north and south of Taiwan,' said Admiral Dennis Blair, the Pacific commander leader."

I wanted to share that, Mr. Speaker, because again I think that we as a Congress understand our constitutional duties, and that is to ensure that we have a strong military.

Tuesday of this week another one of our colleagues, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PITTS), who is a veteran of the Vietnam War, came on the floor talking about China selling military materials to Cuba. I wanted to come to the floor with this enlargement of the Washington Times article that he made reference to that says China is secretly shipping arms to Cuba, and just again to say to my colleagues in the House as well as the Senate, soon we will be debating an emergency supplemental for our military. I think it is \$5.8 billion, I wish it were closer to \$9 billion, but we will debate that issue later.

This is an unsafe world, and we must be sure that we are well prepared to defend the national security interests of this country because as we all went back on Memorial Day to pay homage to those who have given their life as well as to those who have served, we