

hundreds of narcotics and alien smugglers, over 8,200 criminal aliens, and approximately 4,000 aliens who were the subject of lookouts by the INS and other agencies. Last year alone, the Portland district office apprehended 4 terrorists.

These figures underscore the critical need for additional land border inspectors to protect the integrity of our borders and the safety of those who currently man them. This latter point is perhaps best illustrated by the situation at the border port of entry in Coburn Gore, Maine. Coburn Gore should be staffed by 12 INS inspectors. Instead, it has two. Together with two Customs Service inspectors, they man the port of entry 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Most of the time, Coburn Gore is manned by only one inspector. Think about that. A single inspector must not only keep traffic moving but must also decide when and whether to conduct a time-consuming secondary inspection when suspicion is raised. Not surprisingly, traffic sometimes backs up to the Canadian border. And when assistance is needed, a call must be placed to the State Police barracks in Skowhegan, the nearest sheriff's office in Farmington, the nearest Border Patrol office in Rangeley, or the nearest land border port of entry in Jackman, each of which is located at least an hour's drive away.

For years, all available INS resources have been allocated to increase the number of Border Patrol agents stationed on our southern border. At the same time, the number of land border inspectors actually has decreased slightly. I am therefore very pleased that Senators HOLLINGS and GREGG have allocated \$25.4 million to hire 348 land border inspectors to, in their words, "begin the long process of aligning manning with workload requirements." Eighteen of these new inspectors would be located in Maine, and would increase the number of INS inspectors stationed at land border ports of entry in my home State by 25 percent. Significantly, the bill would mean two new inspectors for Coburn Gore.

On August 31, I wrote to Attorney General Ashcroft asking him to support the increase in land border inspectors including in this bill but, unfortunately, excluded from the House version.

It is cruelly ironic that today, in the aftermath of the worst terrorist attack the world has ever witnessed, news reports have indicated that some of the terrorists responsible may well have entered our country through one or more of Maine's understaffed land border ports of entry.

The INS and Customs Service inspectors on our northern border work hard and long to protect our safety. It is disturbing to learn how often they encounter terrorists and other criminals seeking to gain entry into the United States. Yet it is comforting to know how often these criminals are appre-

hended before they can accomplish their goals.

As skilled and as vigilant as they are, our border inspectors need more help, and that is why I commend the Senator from New Hampshire and the Senator from South Carolina for their work. I strongly support the provisions in this bill that will put more inspectors where they are urgently needed on our borders.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senator from Michigan, Ms. STABENOW, be recognized as in morning business for 5 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator from Michigan.

TESTING OUR NATIONAL WILL AND CHARACTER

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about how Tuesday's terrorist attack is testing our national will and our character. There are no words to fully describe the depth of that infamy and not enough tears to properly mourn the innocent lives that have been so cruelly taken. We join all Americans in a focus to help those victims, families, and communities who have been terrorized, and also to focus on those who are responsible and hold them accountable.

We have come together to say loudly and clearly that we will respond to those who have attacked and murdered Americans. But I am also concerned that in our anger, an anger we all share, we would lash out at fellow Americans who come here from the Middle East, which is also wrong.

I am disturbed by reports from my home State of Michigan that Arab Americans have been victims of threats and hate mail and their businesses and institutions have been vandalized. One businessman felt so threatened that he bought two American flags—one for his home and one for his business—as he felt he needed to prove his love for his country. We want people to fly American flags out of pride, not out of fear.

The Koran, just as the Bible, is a book of love, peace, and tolerance. There are those who have outrageously perverted that message. It reminds me of the Ku Klux Klan that took the symbol of the cross and the words of Christianity and perverted them to lash out with hate and violence against other Americans. There are those in the world who are extremists who are doing the same thing with the religion of Islam.

I know Arab Americans, as all Americans, grieve and have anger and outrage about what has happened, and they want justice for Americans.

I stand here today urging all of us to come together as Americans and not allow the terrorists to have another victory by having us turn on each other. Arab Americans, as all Ameri-

cans, have lost loved ones. They are part of the rescue crews, and they are the nurses and the doctors working around the clock to save lives. We, all of us, have been attacked and assaulted as Americans of all faiths, of all backgrounds. We stand as Americans to take on those who threaten us and to respond and hold them accountable. It is important in our grief and in our anger that we not allow the terrorists to turn us on each other.

This is a time of testing our American values, our beliefs, and our will. It is an opportunity for all of us to stand together and make a statement about who we are and what we believe. I know that in the great State of Michigan, all that I represent, everyone I represent, stand together arm in arm to make sure the victims and the families have what they need and that justice is served in this outrageous attack on America.

Thank you, Mr. President.

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIAL, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, yesterday and this morning, one by one Members of the Senate came to the Chamber offering their thoughts on the events that occurred on September 11. There were words of condolence to the terrorism victims and their families. There have been words of praise for firefighters and police officers, many of whom gave their lives attempting to help others.

There were words of anger and warning at the perpetrators of these terrorist attacks, and there were words of concern and outrage the United States is not doing enough to prevent and combat terrorism from rearing its ugly head on our shores.

During my own remarks, I noted that General Holland, the U.S. Air Force commander in chief of the Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida, who directs our counterterrorism efforts on behalf of the U.S. military, does not have a direct civilian counterpart. I reiterate what I and several other of our colleagues said yesterday: We should have one.

I find it almost ironic, while the terrorists were attacking our innocent civilians and our democratic freedoms, we in the Chamber of democracy's most deliberative body were considering a bill that takes a significant step to provide such a civilian counterpart to the military point person on counterterrorism.

This bill before the Senate today contains language to create the position of Deputy Attorney General for Combating Terrorism.

When I spoke this morning, I commended the two managers of this bill.