

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HEROIC ACTS BY SAILORS OF THE USS JOHN S. MCCAIN

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, during the USS *John S. McCain* recent visit to the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), a sailor and his friends saved the lives of two women at the Grotto, a popular swimming and diving spot on the island.

A sunken pool located on Saipan's northern coast, the grotto is connected to the sea by an underwater passage. The strong current regularly flows turbulently up and around the rocks making it very dangerous when the tide comes in. As Firecontrolman Petty Officer 3rd Class Luke Ishizaki, and his friends Derek Hendricks and Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Baumgarten were swimming, they noticed tourists Hsieh Yi Fan and Shih Pei Chi swept off their feet by huge waves.

Ishizaki jumped in the water grabbing onto a safety rope attached to a large rock. Hendricks and Baumgarten also attempted to help but were unable due to the strong current. Locking his legs around the safety line, Ishizaki was able to grab one woman by the wrist and hold onto the other with his arms preventing them from being swept away by the current. Before settling down, the waves bashed Ishizaki and the tourists against the rocks several times. Had he failed to hold onto the rope, all three would have lost their lives.

Ishizaki and the women suffered cuts and bruises but were not seriously hurt. Upon being brought to safety, Baumgarten and Hendricks constantly attended to the women to prevent them from going into shock. Upon determining that they were well enough to leave, another sailor, Sonar Technician Petty Officer 3rd Class Jay Arnold drove the women to their hotel. The men were later to be informed that a diver was killed on this spot earlier that day.

Luke Ishizaki is from Guam and grew up in my neighborhood of Yona. He believes that the training he received from the United States Navy contributed to his quick and calculated response to this life-threatening situation. He also credits his experience as a swimmer in the reefs of Guam as well as his training and involvement in Martial Arts as key factors that led him to perform this selfless and heroic act.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pride and pleasure in commending the acts of Luke Ishizaki and his friends. These men are the embodiment of what is excellent and admirable in our society. They are worthy role models for this and future generations. Si Yu'os Ma'ase pot todu i bidan-miyu!

TRIBUTE TO HEROES OF BROOKWOOD, ALABAMA

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, this is a time of heroes for America. The world has applauded the heroism and dedication of the rescue workers in New York and at the Pentagon. Now, sadly, Alabama has its own heroes deserving of our recognition and applause.

When three Alabama coal miners became trapped a mile underground last Sunday, ten of their colleagues—fully aware of the danger—rushed into the mine to rescue them. Tragically, all 13 miners died.

We stand in awe of such demonstrated bravery, valor and personal sacrifice. But on the other hand, none of us should really be surprised because, after all, they were coal miners. Those who died trying to rescue their fallen comrades were upholding a proud tradition of American coal miners. They put their own lives at risk to save each other from disaster. Those who rushed to the aid of their fellow miners were doing what coal miners have done for ages.

Our prayers and thoughts go out to their families. I am mindful of a James Michener quote contemplating American heroism—brave acts by Americans whose fate pulls them from ordinary lives and places them in extraordinary circumstances: "Where do we get such men?" Men at ground zero in New York, at the Pentagon, and in the mine in Alabama, grace us all by their response and sacrifice in times of peril.

Mr. Speaker, this tragedy should give us renewed respect and appreciation for our nation's coal miners. They are true patriots. They literally provide the fuel for our economy and our strength. God bless them all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, due to an emergency in my district I unexpectedly missed two votes yesterday. If present I would have voted yea on rollcall vote Nos. 349 and 350.

TRIBUTE TO KGTF GENERAL MANAGER GERALDINE "GINGER" S. UNDERWOOD

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend and congratulate a superb

and admirable woman, Geraldine "Ginger" Underwood, upon her retirement after 29 years of service to the people of Guam.

I can truly speak of Ginger's accomplishments for I have known her for many years. The daughter of Thomas Sapp and Marie Garcia, Ginger is a product of Guam's educational system. She attended Wettengel Elementary and Tamuning Elementary as well as St. Anthony School. She later attended Dededo Junior High and graduated from John F. Kennedy High School. She went on to earn a degree from the University of Guam.

Ginger started out her career in government service with the Guam Telephone Authority. Having been employed at this agency from 1972 until 1983, Ginger held various positions namely as a telephone operator, claims adjuster, customer service representative, service office division manager, and directory manager.

Most noteworthy, however, was, her accomplishments at the Guam Educational Telecommunications Corporation—the Guam Public Television, KGTF Channel 12. She started out in 1984 as a private secretary. Prior to serving as the television station's administrative officer, she was its acting general manager. In 1995, she gained the position she holds today by becoming KGTF's general manager.

Upon taking KGTF's top post, Ginger spearheaded office improvements and facilitated a more productive work environment. Under her direction, the station purchase and installed a digital ready (DTV) tower and antenna. Shelves to house thousands of tapes were made available for the Programming Department. An employee lounge room was constructed for employees and guests. Televisions were placed in every office department in order to familiarize employees with KGTF TV programs and services. The station facility was beautified by tree-planting and landscaping projects. Ginger also made sure that rusted shipping containers used as hiding places by students skipping school were removed from the KGTF yard.

As general manager, Ginger was given the opportunity to attend national conferences on public broadcasting. She also used her position at KGTF to gain involvement in a wide variety of community and fundraising activities. KGTF's major fundraisers include the annual KGTF/MWR Fourth of July Carnival, quarterly pledge drives, island-wide Read-a-Thons, golf tournaments and international wine, cheese and food tasting festivals. Her participation in community events such as the Annual Halloween Carnival, the Junior Achievement Fair, the Guma Mami Art Auction, and the Islandwide Easter Egg Hunt have made her a highly recognized community figure.

Under her leadership, PBS programming and activities gained wide popularity and acceptance on Guam. Ginger was responsible for implementing the Mister Rogers, Clothes for Kids Drive, the Reading Rainbow's Young Writers and Illustrators Contest, and having

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

popular children's programs costumes made available for awareness activities on Guam. Ginger was instrumental in bringing the actor who portrays Mr. McFeeley on Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Dave Newell, to Guam. This endeavor in which Mr. Newell was able to visit 17 Guam schools in a period of four days earned for KGTF this year the prestigious Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Trolley Award. Among the additional awards given to KGTF while under Ginger's direction was the Guam Developmental Disabilities Council Media Representative of the Year award for outstanding services and sensitivity to Guam's disabled community in 1997, the Micronesia Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists award for outstanding community service to the people of Guam in 1999, in addition to the Program of the Year and Photo of Year awards of the Governor's Recognition Excel Program both of which were earned in the year 2000.

Ginger is happily married to my brother, Richard. Ginger and Richard have two daughters, Ursula and Amy, two sons, Richard and John Thomas, and an adorable granddaughter, Bellissima "Bailey" Underwood-Corso.

After over twenty-nine years of achievements and distinguished service, Ginger has chosen to retire and spend more time with her family. I share with my brother, Richard, nieces, nephews and family members the pride we have for Ginger's work and accomplishments. On behalf of the people of Guam, I congratulate Ginger on her well-earned retirement and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY MAJOR
DWAYNE WILLIAMS

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, the tragedy that has befallen our nation is unspeakable. Thousands of lives tragically cut short, right here in our homeland. For each of those lost lives, thousands more are left behind—family, friends, colleagues—suffering and trying to cope.

One of those families is the Williams family. Army Major Dwayne Williams, originally from Jacksonville, Alabama, was killed as he performed his duty to his country at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. Although I never had the honor of meeting Major Williams, I have come to know him through a heartfelt newspaper column written by one of his brothers, Birmingham News staff writer Roy L. Williams. With unanimous consent, I ask that this column be re-printed in the RECORD after my statement.

Mr. Speaker, Major Williams was unquestionably a noble patriot, an honorable son and a much beloved husband, father and brother. His life was robbed from him, and from us, because he was a living symbol of American greatness. Major Williams was not taken from us so tragically because he, as an individual, was hated, but because he represented our country's strength, determination and honor. We owe Major Dwayne Williams for paying

our price for freedom. We must forever honor his memory and keep his family in our thoughts and prayers.

God bless Army Major Dwayne Williams. God bless his family, and God bless America.

[From the Birmingham News:]

TERRORIST ATTACK CAN'T DESTROY SPIRIT,
FAITH OF OUR FAMILY

(By Roy L. Williams)

Like millions of Americans, I was in a state of disbelief watching televised images Sept. 11 of airplanes striking the World Trade Center.

My heart sank as I thought of the pain and anguish relatives of those killed or missing must be experiencing.

Never did I imagine that my own family would be going through that same emotional turmoil less than an hour later when another jet struck the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., where my oldest brother, Army Maj. Dwayne Williams, worked.

I was sitting at my desk watching scenes of the World Trade Center towers on fire when I received a frantic phone call from my mother, Pearl Williams. She told me a plane had just struck the Pentagon and expressed worry about Dwayne.

I told her she was mistaken; the planes struck the World Trade Center, not the Pentagon, and assured her Dwayne was OK. After hanging up the phone, I looked up at the first televised images of the plane crash at the Pentagon.

I immediately called my mother and informed her I would check on Dwayne's status. The next few hours were mired by frustration as phone calls to Dwayne's office in the Pentagon and home wouldn't go through.

I finally reached Dwayne's home around noon and left a voice message for his wife, Tammy, to call me with word that my brother was OK. At 2 p.m., five hours after the Pentagon attack, I reached Tammy's mother and was told that she had spoken to her daughter, who was worried sick because Dwayne had not called.

That was unlike Dwayne: He would have called his wife and children.

WORST FEARS CONFIRMED

Shortly before midnight with still no word from Dwayne, I couldn't sleep and turned on the television for the latest news on the Pentagon. What I heard confirmed my worst fears: The jet had struck a section housing Army offices where Dwayne worked.

The next morning, I reported to work but wasn't able to concentrate. Tears flowed as I imagined the horrors my brother and other victims in the Pentagon and World Trade Center experienced.

The Army and Pentagon had my brother listed as missing and feared dead. Nine days went by with no official word on Dwayne's fate, and our pain got agonizing worse as time went by.

On Friday, Sept. 21, 10 days after the Pentagon attack, the news I had dreaded finally arrived: Dwayne had been declared dead.

The bad news came around 1:45 p.m. with a call from my sobbing mother: "It's official: Dwayne's been identified as among the dead," she said.

He had apparently been among the 150 unidentified dead victims lying at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

I didn't want to believe it, and hours later remain in a state of disbelief.

Yet at the same time, I'm glad the waiting is over and the Williams family can move on in our grief.

I will never be able to fully accept the fact that my brother's life was taken in such a

despicable manner, but I am at peace in knowing that Dwayne was a Christian and is at home with the Lord.

In my mind, I see God's angels descending upon the Pentagon and snatching Dwayne and the other innocent victims from the building just as the plane hit, carrying them home to that peaceful place we all want to go: heaven.

The hardest part about this whole ordeal was the wait. We wanted closure by receiving word that Dwayne has been found. Our prayer was that he would be found alive amidst the rubble.

Though chances of survival were slim, my family never gave up hope until receiving the final word of Dwayne's death. Our faith in God sustained the family throughout this living nightmare.

I've gone through a wave of emotions—anger and bitterness toward the terrorists; sadness and sorrow; disbelief and shock; denial and an unwillingness to accept the fact that Dwayne is dead.

But closure now allows the family to move into the grief process.

GOD'S ANGELS

Although I constantly worry about the fate of my missing brother, I am at peace in knowing Dwayne is a Christian and that God's angels are protecting him. Much of the grief my wife, Patrice, and I are experiencing has been lessened by the comforting words of my pastor, Jim Lowe of the Guiding Light Church in Roebuck.

For the past three months, Pastor Lowe has been preaching a sermon series on how to cope with trouble and strife. I didn't know those sermons would apply so deeply and personally in my own life.

I have a horrible aching pain in the pit of my stomach that grows worse day by day. Leaning on the Lord is the only thing that can sustain someone going through a traumatic event like this. The prayers of the Guiding Light church family, relatives and friends are enabling us to cope with this tragedy.

In this world that we live in, you are either going into a personal storm, in the midst of a storm or coming out of one. How you cope with the situation is determined by your faith in God. We must learn to look beyond the circumstances of this world to the powerful, comforting presence of God.

Patrice and I are not only suffering anguish in the possible loss of my brother, but also one of our best friends. Dwayne served as my best man in our wedding 10 years ago and we communicated with him and his wife, Tammy, almost weekly either via e-mail or telephone.

Patrice is expecting our second child in February and I am trying my best to keep her calm, but she feels and shares my pain. I thank God that our daughter, Naja, is just 2 and too young to fully comprehend what is going on.

I thank God, also, that Naja did get a chance to see her Uncle Dwayne again this past June when his family stopped by to visit us on the way to report to the Pentagon.

Dwayne and I, along with our wives, vacationed together to Cancun, Mexico, three years ago and while he was stationed in Egypt in 1997, we viewed the awesome wonder of the Great Pyramid and Sphinx together.

Even though the terrorists attack killed Dwayne, we still have comfort in knowing that God has called him home to heaven. A terrorist attack may be able to destroy this earthly body, but cannot destroy Dwayne's spirit, which is alive and well in all of his family members and friends.

What makes this so excruciatingly painful to cope with is that Dwayne had just completed the Army Command and General Staff College in Kansas and got the assignment to the Pentagon just three months ago. It was to be the highlight of his career. One would think the military headquarters building would be the safest place in the world to serve.

Dwayne served in the Persian Gulf War and spent two years in Egypt, a scene of many terrorists' attacks, yet came home unscathed. Then this happened.

Dwayne is one of three of my brothers serving this great country in the military: the others are Army Sgt. 1st Class Kim Williams and my identical twin brother, Air Force Staff Sgt. Troy L. Williams. In the back of my mind, I always worried about them being injured or killed in battle. I never imagined one would fall victim to a terrorist attack in our homeland.

MORE THAN A STATISTIC

Let me paint a picture of Dwayne to show that my brother is more than a statistic in this senseless tragedy that killed and injured more than 5,000 innocent people.

An 18-year Army veteran who got his start as a paratrooper and ranger at Fort Benning, Ga., Dwayne served in the Persian Gulf War in 1991 and is a highly decorated soldier.

Dwayne is a loving husband to his wife, Tammy, and a devoted father to a 13-year-old daughter, Kelsie, and 17-year-old son, Tyler.

He is the beloved son of my parents, Horace and Pearl Williams, of Jacksonville, AL.

He is a protecting big brother to me and my other two brothers.

He is a star athlete, having lettered in high school football and basketball, then later played for four years on the University of North Alabama football team as a pass receiver. An avid softball player, he helped lead his Army team to victory in competition while in Egypt.

He is a man of strong moral character, who rarely displayed much emotion but is quick to express love in his own quiet way. And he is a friend to many.

To get a true picture of the horrible ordeal and anguish this country has been going through during the past week, simply multiply the devastation my family is experiencing by 6,000—the number of other victims either killed or still missing in these attacks.

It's a numbing, horrible feeling I pray that no other family has to experience themselves. Please pray for all of the victims of these terrible attacks. God bless America.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING CAREER OF LAUREL GROSHONG

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous contributions of a good friend, Laurel Groshong. After serving the citizens of California for thirty-two years, Laurel is retiring from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) on Friday, September 28th, 2001.

Shortly after graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree from UCLA in 1968, Laurel began her career in public service as an Employment Trainee in the Van Nuys, California office of EDD. Moving up the ladder at EDD, in 1972 she transferred to the Canoga Park

EDD office as an ES Officer 11. In 1982, she moved her family to Northern California to take over the Lakeport EDD office as the Assistant Field Office Manager. Then, in 1992, former Governor Pete Wilson appointed Laurel to represent California on special assignment in Washington DC for six months covering labor and employment legislation. Upon her return to Lakeport, she was promoted to Field Office Manager where she has served with distinction until her official retirement.

Along with two close friends, Laurel decided in 1995 to return to graduate school all the while managing an office and taking care of her family. In 1998, she proudly received her Masters Degree in Behavioral Sciences with an emphasis on negotiation and conflict management that has assisted her greatly in the past three years.

Laurel's peers have recognized her with numerous awards for outstanding teamwork, including Outstanding Employer Advisory Committee Coordinator, positive impact quality management, job training partnership training, and EDD division teamwork. The awards she has received reflect upon her dedication to her hometown of Lakeport. She has always shown a strong sense of public service in the tremendous amount of time and resources that she donates to a variety of community organizations and causes.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Laurel both professionally and personally for more than a decade. Throughout my tenure in public office, both as a California State Senator and now as Congressman, she has been a friend that I could turn to for sound advice and counsel on employment issues.

Mr. Speaker, as we honor Laurel Groshong for her outstanding career in public service, please join me in extending the best wishes from the members of the 107th Congress to her upon retirement.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2944) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. HAYES. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of Mr. HOSTETTLER's amendment—a vote in support of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Supreme Court has ruled on this issue—and they said that to force the Boy Scouts to accept homosexual troop leaders would violate their right to free association and would dilute the Scout's message. We must not threaten the Scouts' constitutional freedoms that were clearly upheld by the Supreme Court.

The process of appealing this ruling is costing the Scouts valuable dollars each day that could be better used to benefit the lives of young men—Young men who are being taught

values such as duty to God and country, honor, respect, and community service.

We must send a message that Congress will uphold the full benefits of freedom of association, and that the Scouts, a private organization, may continue to define their own leadership and promote core American values that have been taught to children for over a century. I urge my fellow members to vote in favor of the Hostettler amendment.

AIR 2001 TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SYSTEM STABILIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2926, legislation that will help our nation's air infrastructure recover from the shocking terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The September 11 tragedy dealt a dual blow to the airline industry; not only did American and United Airlines lose highly esteemed pilots and flight attendants in these violent hijackings, the subsequent federal shutdown of the airways also had a severe financial impact on carriers and led to the layoffs of more than 100,000 workers. Our air infrastructure supports the American economy by transporting goods and people across this great nation, and its continued strength is essential to the ongoing economic health of the United States. However, airlines also provide an opportunity to exercise the American freedom of movement. Every year, millions of Americans use air travel to visit their friends and families, take vacations, and conduct business throughout the country. Congress is now poised to bolster the airlines and restore confidence in our ability to fly.

H.R. 2926 will provide \$5 billion in immediate cash assistance to airlines to compensate for losses incurred during the federal grounding order. The measure also includes \$10 billion in loan guarantees to help airlines adjust to the lingering effects of the September 11 attacks. By promoting the continued viability of air travel, this legislation will also assist other businesses reliant on the airline industry such as aircraft manufacturers, travel agents, rental car agencies, hotels, and other travel- and tourism-related companies—all of whom have been adversely affected by the recent slowdown in air travel. Coupled with significant improvements in airline and airport safety, which I urge Congress to address in the immediate future, H.R. 2926 will stabilize and restore confidence in air travel.

However, I am quite dismayed that this legislation contains no provisions to help the 100,000 workers in the airline and airline-related sectors who have lost their jobs in the aftermath of September 11. If we truly hope to boost our nation's economy, we must ensure that these men and women receive unemployment benefits, as well as the educational and retraining assistance needed to minimize the transition time between jobs. Additionally, Congress must enact legislation to provide these families federally-subsidized COBRA health insurance during this difficult time.

Finally, it is critical that we move quickly to adopt a legislative response to the need for enhanced security in our airports and on our aircraft. The federal government must play a major role ensuring the safety of our travel, and we must act soon. I understand that the House leadership intends to address these concerns in the near future, and, in the spirit of bipartisanship, I stand ready to work with them in these efforts.

TRIBUTE TO PEREZ BROTHERS,
INC.

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this occasion to congratulate one of Guam's premier construction companies, Perez Brothers, Inc., on their Golden Anniversary marking 50 years of service to the people of Guam.

Tracing its origins from a retail outlet of residential electrical products operating out of a modest quonset hut in the capital city of Hagåtña in 1951, Perez Brothers, Inc. has grown to be a great contributor in the development of the island of Guam. The company's founder, the late Frank D. Perez, Sr., founded the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) and introduced Federal Housing Authority (FHA) residential financing to Guam.

The destruction brought about by World War 11 opened a window of opportunity for the company to grow and serve the needs of the island. The establishment of a concrete block plant in 1952 led to Guam's first private housing development, Perezville, in 1954. Soon Perez Brothers would rebuild the damaged cathedral in Hagåtña. Completed in 1958, the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral remains one of Guam's most prominent buildings.

The company continued to grow in the 1960's. The concrete, block and crusher plants established in 1959 were augmented by a new two-story hardware store in 1962 and another block plant in 1969. By the 1970's, the company had acquired a modern and fully equipped asphalt plant that enabled Perez Brothers to take part in a number of significant road paving projects on the island.

Several setbacks in the mid-1970's and the early 1980's forced the company to downsize. However, the last ten years have been marked by an increased share in the construction market. Recently, the company has participated in a number of projects including the construction of high-rise structures and concrete "outfall" for underwater pipes. This is in addition to road paving and residential construction.

Fifty years after Frank Perez, Sr., brought together a conglomerate comprising of a hardware store, a concrete block plant, and a construction company, a new generation has been tasked to carry on his legacy. Thomas "Tom" Perez serves as the company's President. Margarita "Marge" Perez is its Corporate affairs vice-president while Gregory "Greg" Perez serves as Personnel and administration vice-president and John Perez is the company's Comptroller.

For the past fifty years, Perez Brothers had been at the forefront of Guam's construction

industry. I offer them my sincerest congratulations on their landmark anniversary. I wish them the best in the years to come.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2586) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2002 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2002, and for other purposes:

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of the Stump/Skelton amendment to H.R. 2586, the National Defense Authorization Act. The transfer of \$400 million from missile defense to intelligence and anti-terrorism initiatives is just the beginning of what actions Congress should take to defend our nation against future threats of terrorism. In light of the September 11, 2001 attacks on America, it is evident that our nation must re-evaluate its priorities to address a list of a broader range of threats to our national security. Developing and implementing premature technology to defend this nation from a foreign missile attack is not at the top of that list. Instead, we need to start focusing our attention on the threat of and preparation for chemical or biological warfare. It would not only be fiscally irresponsible to appropriate the full amount, of some \$8 billion plus dollars originally requested by the committee for this sole purpose, but it would also be detrimental to our country's role in the international community and open the United States to even more threats.

Limited Ballistic Missile Defense is an ambitious program that will require the commitment of enormous resources in order for it to be even remotely successful. This ill-conceived initiative, from all projected estimates, will cost this nation \$60 to \$120 billion over the next 20 years, and there is no guarantee that we will be able to intercept an incoming missile. Before any defense system implementation takes place, much more research needs to be done to develop a total or layered missile defense system that can intercept a missile in all phases of flight. The Bush administration has been adamant in its willingness to go forward, even if unilaterally, with implementation of a limited missile defense system, but I ask: "Why risk violating the 1974 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and triggering a new arms race to implement a system that is not even failsafe?" An arms race this time around would not only include the traditional player, of Russia, but also China and North Korea. After years of brokering disarmament and nuclear reduction treaties, like SALT and START, we would once again start to witness the dramatic proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and biological weapons. This proliferation would make it much easier for rogue nations or terrorist organizations wanting to do harm to the United States to get their hands on weapons to commit acts of terrorism and instill fear into American citizens.

POPOY ZAMORA'S RETIREMENT AS
HOST OF BUHAY PINOY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend and congratulate Popoy Zamora, a distinguished community leader, for his achievements and his well-earned retirement as host of the Guam television program, Buhay Pinoy.

Our geographic location on Guam makes us a true melting pot. Within our small island, the many variations of eastern and western thought and cultures meet and coexist in a state of cooperation and harmony. It is, however, the diversity and interesting aspects of these particular cultures that has made Guam the special place that it is today. Achieving unity while focusing upon diversity is no simple task. Community leaders like Popoy Zamora greatly contribute in making this possible.

For the past twenty-seven years, Popoy worked hard to produce a weekly television program which highlights the interests and activities of the Filipino community on Guam. In a market where it is mostly difficult to locally sustain a cultural and ethnic program, Popoy had great success in keeping the pulse of his viewers. To keep his show interesting, Popoy brought in guests from the local community as well as personalities and politicians from the Philippines. Through his show, he was able to promote Filipino culture, increase the involvement in community activities of Filipinos on Guam and remind us all of the strong friendship and close relations between the United States and the Philippines. His eagerness and perseverance made all this possible.

For all his work and dedication, we, in Guam are most thankful. Upon his retirement, I offer my congratulations for his distinguished career and my personal commendation for a job well-done. On behalf of the people of Guam, I wish him the best on his well-earned retirement and all the luck in his future endeavors. Tauspusong pasasalamat, Popoy.

CANADA: NO TRUER FRIEND

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 26, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today The Buffalo News carried an editorial entitled "No Truer Friend," expressing thanks to Canada for its support for the United States following the attacks of September 11, 2001. I commend this editorial to the attention of all Members and know they join me in thanking Canada for its long friendship, even brotherhood, with the United States.

The United States cannot, and will not, forget the special relationship between our two countries. We will not allow terrorist attacks to strain that relationship. As Canada's reaction to the events of September 11 show, Canada is the truest friend of the United States.

Again, I thank all Canadians for their steadfastness and friendship to the United States.

NO TRUER FRIEND

This is a time of tragedy and a time of crisis, and not a moment to invest nuances of

diplomacy with a gravity they don't deserve. But neither can Americans allow a perceived slight to go uncorrected, or retreat so deeply into sorrow that family goes unnoticed and gratitude is neglected.

Thank you, Canada. Thank you for the support, thank you for the huge banner in Fort Erie, just across our shared river, that proclaimed "God Bless Our American Friends." Thank you for your prayers.

Here in this border city, all of us listened with understanding and approval as a president burdened with the awful weight of a terrorist onslaught, and the duty to respond to it, acknowledged the presence of Great Britain's prime minister at an extraordinary session of Congress and singled out that nation for its support. But when he properly noted the strong ties both countries have forged in the fires of adversity, that America has no truer friend, we all in our hearts added the phrase, "except Canada."

We know who our friends are. We know that the very first international act of sup-

port for America in this terrible time came from Canada, which accepted more than 200 diverted American airline flights and took care of more than 45,000 stranded passengers.

We remember Canada's role in rescuing Americans from an earlier political maelstrom in Tehran, and we remember the stirring support the late Canadian broadcaster Gordon Sinclair provided nearly 30 years ago when he took on a world that was kicking America when it had been brought low by the Vietnam War.

We remember. Most of us in this northern city know the Canadian national anthem and many of us sing it at our shared sporting events. We also share an annual international Friendship Festival, and mean it. We quibble at times—the design of a proposed new international bridge springs to mind—but we do so as family.

Perhaps that's why President Bush didn't mention Canada in a stirring speech that focused on a global problem, but also recognized support from several nations. He may

simply have been looking beyond family. "No need to praise the brother," Bush asserted while meeting with Prime Minister Jean Chretien in Washington Monday. To be frank, it more likely was just a speech-writing snafu.

Some of you, in Canada, have read into it a snub, or petulance over Canada's liberal visa problems. Please don't. We are grateful for the forensic team that was dispatched immediately from Ontario to Manhattan, for the strong and ongoing cooperation of law enforcement and border agencies, for the more than 100,000 Canadians who turned out for remembrance services on Ottawa's Parliament Hill and for the countless American flags still waving in Canadian towns.

Most of all we are grateful that, once again, Americans and Canadians stand together. We may both need to draw comfort from that in the days ahead. In fact, we already have.