

government ever to visit Yale. On that occasion, I was tremendously impressed by the efficiency and dedication of the Yale-China staff. The success of this visit paved the way for the extraordinarily warm welcome extended to President Levin and his delegation this past May in Beijing. It is thus a special pleasure to return this evening to be with you all to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of this extraordinary organization, which has contributed so much to the life of Yale University and relations between China and the United States.

We are gathered to salute one of the great international endeavors of the past century. Before there was a Rockefeller Foundation, a United Nations, or a Peace Corps, there was the Yale-China Association. Growing from missionary roots amid the optimism and self-confidence of Yale's bicentennial celebration in 1901, Yale-China soon evolved into a bicultural educational enterprise that reflected Yale's spirit of intellectual tolerance and openness. In the process, Yale-China cultivated its own traditions of compassion, cultural sensitivity, and selfless service for the benefit of others. It is those traditions which we celebrate this evening.

Of course, China—indeed, our entire world—is a very different place today from what it was a century ago. Who in 1901 could have foretold the extraordinary changes China has undergone? Who even a decade or two ago would have predicted China's recent advances in economic development and education?

Since its founding a century ago, the Yale-China Association has been engaging young Chinese and American people and equipping them with both an appreciation for and the cross-cultural tools essential to successful world citizenship. Today's instantaneous transmission of ideas and images brings the world closer together, yet it cannot replace the life-changing power of a single intense, personal encounter between people of different cultural traditions. Many of you—Chinese and Americans—have been touched by Yale-China and can testify to its extraordinary power in your lives. These encounters are important not only for the individuals involved, but for the broader cause of international understanding which forms the necessary foundation for peace.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,  
People come and go, but our institutions and traditions endure. Tonight, let us each commit ourselves with pride to strengthening those institutions within our world that have sustained hope and our shared humanity. Let us transform our sorrow of the day of Terror and its aftermath into a renewed resolve, and our loss into a gain for a humanity free of terrorism.

I congratulate the Yale-China Association on its hundredth birthday and all of its accomplishments since its birth here in New Haven—the students educated, the lives saved, the suspicions and animosities dispelled and the spirit enriched. May Yale-China's work and traditions continue as shining light for many generations into the future!

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS  
IN HONORING THE CREW AND  
PASSENGERS OF UNITED AIR-  
LINES FLIGHT 93

SPEECH OF

**HON. ERNIE FLETCHER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2001*

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for his work on the

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to vote for this measure; and I really do not think it will take a lot of encouragement because we have had an overwhelming expression of enthusiasm regarding those on United Airlines Flight 93 and their heroic activities.

Mr. Speaker, this is a resolution expressing a sense of Congress that a memorial plaque be established on the grounds of the Capitol. It is an expression of our thanks and condolences to the passengers and crew of Flight 93.

I also want to thank my Legislative Director, Phillip Brown, who has worked very hard to get this done. I think it will be great for posterity as they see a plaque that honors those on Flight 93 who I do believe had a significant part in probably saving our Capitol.

On September 11, United Airlines Flight 93, piloted by Captain James Dahl, departed from Newark International Airport at 8:01 a.m. on a routine flight to San Francisco with six other crew members and 38 passengers on board. Shortly after departure, the flight was hijacked by terrorists.

The hijacking was one of four, as we all remember, on the morning of September 11. We all remember that date because it was a horrible day and a turning point in our nation's history. Four of our own planes were hijacked and targeted on buildings that define our nation and symbolize our freedom and values and symbolize our nation's economic and military strength. Three of these planes hit their marks, resulting in an incomprehensible tragedy and loss of innocent life on a scale not seen in this country since the Civil War.

We know that the passengers and crew learned through cellular phone conversations with loved ones on the ground of the deliberate acts of destruction and murder occurring in New York City and Washington, D.C., and that hijacked aircraft had been used in these terrorist acts of war.

During these phone conversations, several of the passengers indicated that there was an agreement among the passengers and crew to try to overpower the hijackers who had taken over the aircraft. It is believed that it was this effort to overpower the hijackers that caused Flight 93 to crash at 10:37 a.m. in southwestern Pennsylvania near Schwenksville, short of what is believed to have been its intended target, Washington, D.C., and probably, this very Capitol building we stand in today.

The efforts of these individuals on this plane heroically limited the damage the terrorists could inflict, losing their lives for their country in the process. We owe the passengers and the crew our gratitude and our honor.

The participants of the resistance on board Flight 93 showed selfless courage and patriotism:

Passengers like Todd Beamer, whose young widow is here today in Washington. He told a telephone operator how much he loved his expecting wife and two sons, and he asked her to call them. He asked her to pray the Lord's Prayer and Psalm 23 with him. He told her, "I am going to have to go out in faith," and his now famous words "Let's roll" have become a rallying cry in America.

Passengers like Tom Burnett, who left what he knew would be likely his last conversation

with his wife saying, "Okay, we are going to do something."

Passengers like Jeremy Glick, who told his wife that the passengers and crew had taken a vote and agreed to try to take back the plane.

Crew members like Sandra Bradshaw, who told her husband of the plan to rush the hijackers and take back control of the plane, and that she was boiling water to use as a weapon against the terrorists.

The passengers and crew, all of whom are survived by loved ones, husbands, wives, children, and parents, very likely averted the destruction of the U.S. Capitol and the symbol this institution has become for the democratic process of government, and in the process, saving hundreds, perhaps thousands of lives.

By their heroic acts, the Statue of Freedom still stands at the top of our noble dome, and the light of freedom still shines brightly here in the Capitol.

This resolution expresses the sense of Congress that a memorial plaque to honor Captain Jason Dahl, First Officer Leroy Homer, flight attendants Lorraine G. Bay, Sandra W. Bradshaw, Wanda A. Green, Ceecee Lyles, Deborah A. Welch, passengers Christian Adams, Todd Beamer, Alan Beaven, Mark Bingham, Thomas Burnett, William Cashman, Georgine Corrigan, Patricia Cushing, Joseph DeLuca, Patrick Driscoll, Edward Felt, Jane C. Folger, Colleen Fraser, Andrew Garcia, Jeremy Glick, Christine Gould, Lauren Grandcolas, Donald Greene, Linda Gronlund, Richard Guadagno, Toshiya Kuge, Hilda Marcin, Waleska Martinez, Nicole Miller, Louis J. Nacke, Donald Peterson, Jean Peterson, Mark Rothenberg, Christine Snyder, John Talignani, and Honor Elizabeth Wainio.

This plaque should be crafted and placed here on the grounds of the United States Capitol expressing our thanks and condolences; and a copy of the plaque, together with a copy of this resolution from the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, should be sent to a designated survivor of each victim.

I am confident with the passage of this resolution that the Speaker of the House, the House minority, the Senate Majority Leader, and the Senate Minority Leader will ask and direct the Architect of the Capitol to begin plans for design, crafting, and placement of this plaque as soon as possible.

I also want to thank my colleagues for their support of this resolution. After this vote, I intend to send a letter to the leadership regarding this sense of Congress, and I invite my colleagues to join me.

IN HONOR OF RENA E SMITH

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2001*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Renae Smith in recognition of her outstanding work on behalf of children.

Renae Smith comes from generations of those who have been involved and have always contributed to their community in some form or fashion. Throughout the years she has dedicated her time to charitable and volunteer work.