

the Administration's agenda? All of the reasons now being cited by the White House—Hussein's bad character, his past behavior, the outstanding unfulfilled U.N. resolutions and his continued pursuit of strategic weaponry—were equally true back then.

I would hope that this headlong rush to judgment does not have anything to do with the November elections.

I expect the Bush Administration to present very soon some conveniently last-minute "new evidence" in order to support its promised new National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) assessing Iraq's capabilities. It is very odd that, as of last week—so many months after Iraq had become the leading headline issue—the Administration had still not completed an all-source, inter-agency assessment of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and future capacity:

Is this because the White House knew it would be unhappy with the result?

Is it because the Administration was unable to pressure all of the intelligence agencies to reach the "right" conclusions?

Is it because the White House has been pressing the Intelligence Community to find some new "evidence" that could be artfully interpreted to support Administration policy?

Mr. Speaker, It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that one or more of these considerations played a role in the otherwise inexplicable delay. Therefore, I have asked the Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Committee on Intelligence to vigorously investigate what dissents any of the intelligence agencies may have registered from the NIE's overall conclusions, from its component findings and from its assumption—either in the final document, or in earlier comments on discussion drafts.

This summer, several major newspapers reported that senior officers at the Pentagon, including members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff did not believe that Iraq posed a sufficient threat to the U.S. to warrant the risks and the costs of a war. Now they apparently have been brought on board a White House war train that is about to leave the station. Why have they suddenly reversed their position? I trust their initial professional judgment.

In these tense times, we should keep in mind the recent warning from another military leader, General Anthony Zinni, who was Marine Commandant and also has headed our Armed Forces Central Command, which guards our interests in the Middle East. He currently is a key advisor on that region to the Administration. General Zinni reminded us that military commanders, who know the full horrors of war are hesitant to plunge ahead unless the national interest is clearly at stake, while those who have never worn a uniform or seen combat often are the ones who most easily and enthusiastically beat the drums of war.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to business in my district, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated: rollcall No. 400

"yea"; rollcall No. 401 "yea"; rollcall No. 402 "yea"; and rollcall No. 403 "yea."

COMMEMORATION OF SEPTEMBER
11, 2001

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, "We must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill," the Puritan preacher John Winthrop proclaimed, as he and his followers sailed for America and freedom. "The eyes of all people are upon us." And so they have remained for nearly four centuries. Many have looked to us in awe, inspired by a nation rooted in liberty. Others have hated the ideal we embody, and wished us ill. But none can remove us from their gaze.

Today, America's economic prosperity, military power, and technological advancement are without peer. Our daily comforts and conveniences exceed those available to most of the six billion people who inhabit the earth. But the ease of our lives does not render us soft, or reluctant to retaliate when attacked. A year ago, all the world watched in horror as a small gang of wicked men took three thousand innocent lives in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Since the moment the first airplane struck the first tower, Americans have shown, both on the battlefield and at home, the strength of our spirit, the mettle of our souls, and the force of our arms. From the firefighters climbing to their deaths, to the airline passengers who battled back, to the precious West Virginia sons and daughters who gave their lives in Afghanistan, the world has witnessed acts of American selflessness and bravery that rival the most revered in the annals of human history.

Just as Winthrop defined America's place in the world, he described how we must live to maintain it. "We must delight in each other," he instructed. "Make others' conditions our own; rejoice together; mourn together; labor and suffer together." Our whole nation suffered the same grievous wound on September 11. Those who delivered the blow hoped it would inaugurate our destruction. Instead, they inspired America's return to the community values and mutual commitment upon which our country was built.

The attacks, the ongoing war, and the continuing threats spur us to embrace again our founding ideas: that all men and women are created equal; that America's destiny is the world's destiny—to secure life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that we cannot allow the centuries-old, world-wide fight for freedom to falter. This recollection of our original rights and responsibilities is a fitting tribute, is an apt memorial, to the lives that were lost and devastated on that sad September day.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
DOROTHY "DOTTIE" KAY JACKSON

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Ms. WATSON of California. Mr. Speaker, Dorothy Kay Jackson was born on July 1, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan. She was the third child born to Lawrence Homer Moore, Sr. and Edna Moore Osborne who preceded her in death. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her second father, Willis "Pops" Osbornes and her brother, John Alfred Moore. The family moved from Detroit in the summer of 1945 to Los Angeles. Dorothy attended public schools in Los Angeles and graduated from Los Angeles High School with honors in 1961.

As a youngster, "Dottie" as she was known to her family, was introduced to the arts at an early age taking up tap dance, piano, and choral lessons. Her love of music and the arts continued throughout her life. Baptized at Trinity Baptist Church, Dorothy accepted Christ at an early age. She attended church regularly and participated in Sunday school and bible classes. She continued her involvement in church activities until her health failed.

An old African proverb states that "It takes a whole village to raise a child." Dorothy epitomized this concept which became a reality in the community where she grew up known as the Hobart Street "village"—a group of families in her neighborhood who bonded and acted as a family unit. Dottie gave music lessons to younger children in the neighborhood and continued to teach Music throughout her high school and college career. Although members of the village settled in areas world wide—Poland, Paris, Massachusetts, Arizona, and of course California—the Hobart family remains united and in touch today.

Dorothy attended public schools in Los Angeles and graduated from L.A. High School with honors in 1959. She earned an A.A. Degree at East Los Angeles Junior College. While attending East Los Angeles, she met and married Charles G. Jackson in 1962. From this union one daughter, Shelley Darnell Jackson, was born. Dorothy demonstrated diligence, dedication and determination in family matters. While she was pursuing her education, she provided exemplary care and nurturing to her daughter and children of other family members. Later she received a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts Degree at California State University, Los Angeles.

In 1966 she began her career and pursuit of excellence in education for children by working in the Early Childhood Education Program at Normandie Avenue School and subsequently accepted a fourth-grade teaching position at Sixth Avenue School. This devoted educator served the Los Angeles Unified School District for 33 years as a Teacher, Title I Coordinator, Area Advisor, Assistant Principal and Principal. Her last administrative assignment was Principal at Glen Feliz Elementary School. Due to her commitment to and understanding of education, she was appointed to the California Textbook Commission by Assembly Speaker Willie Brown in 1991.

Dottie, a multi-talented educator, made tremendous contributions to the school and community and received many honors and accolades including the "Woman of the Year" from