

Indeed, I will work to engage and ensure that my local community receives all of the Federal help that they may need.

I also want to recognize the Montgomery County Public Schools for their prudent, responsible actions today to keep our students safe and sound. The best thing we can do now is remain calm, but aware and vigilant, and report any suspicious activities to the police.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HOLLY JOHNSTON RICHARDSON

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. BROWN), I rise today to pay tribute to one of South Carolina's most dedicated public servants, the late Holly Johnston Richardson, who passed away this week after a courageous battle with breast cancer at the young age of 47.

Most people know Holly Richardson as Senator STROM THURMOND's confidante, gatekeeper, and personal adviser since 1979, but some may not know she was also one of Senator THURMOND's closest friends.

Holly was a native of Summerville, South Carolina, and was always loyally at Senator THURMOND's side. She commanded the most sincere respect from South Carolinians and Washingtonians because of her professionalism, her character, and her devotion to duty.

All of South Carolina will miss Holly's Southern charm, her warmth, and dedication to Senator THURMOND. We extend our deepest sympathies to her husband Phil, to her two children, Anne and Emmet, and to her mother and father, Joanne and Coy Johnston. Her positive influence will continue through the STROM THURMOND and Holly Richardson Public Service Scholarship at her alma mater of Converse College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

A WORD CALLED "IRONY"

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk today about a word called "irony." Webster's dictionary says irony is when there is an incongruity between the actual and the expected result of events.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, we have a prime case of this in my State. The people who have produced food for all of us in this country for our whole lives, farmers and ranchers, are now having a hard time affording food themselves. The very hard-working people who made this country the breadbasket of the world now cannot afford bread themselves.

That is a pretty good example of an irony; is it not? It is also a good example of a cruel irony.

Mr. Speaker, I implore the Members of this House to finally hear our plea for assistance for drought-stricken farmers and ranchers, and quickly pass an agriculture disaster assistance package for crop years 2001 and 2002.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GEKAS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

□ 1500

HONORING SEYMOUR GOLDWEBER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. REHBERG). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Florida's outstanding agricultural heroes, Seymour Goldweber.

Near Jersey City, Seymour was born on July 24, 1918. As a young boy he moved with his family to Miami where he completed primary and secondary school and became an Eagle Scout with Miami's oldest scout troop. He then joined the United States Marine Corps before the start of World War II.

Seymour served throughout the war in the Pacific Theater where he fought in many military campaigns, including the Marines' costly battle at Iwo Jima. Following his military service to our country, he returned to Miami-Dade County where he obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in botany at the University of Miami in 1950.

Seymour Goldweber began his professional career at the University of Miami's Tropical Fruit Research Farm at Richmond Field conducting horticulture research studies on tropical fruit. His work brought these unknown species from around the world into productive specimens, worthy of national and international marketing, including guavas, mangos, and avocados that we enjoy today.

Mr. Goldweber joined the University of Florida-Miami-Dade County Cooperative Extension Service as their fruit crops agent in 1960 where he designed their nationally and internationally prominent extension programs.

In particular, his extension programs for the development of tropical and subtropical fruit has had an enormous impact in establishing south Florida's tropical fruit industry for distribution across the USA and for export around the globe.

Seymour has shared his extensive knowledge and expertise by training numerous other extension office faculty and staff. He is a role model and mentor of outstanding caliber and per-

formance. He made the mold. Seymour Goldweber is widely recognized by our local and State agencies. He is the choice to lecture to visiting professors, tour with college students, host an event, or guide a bus full of journalist and legislative representatives through America's grocery, South Miami-Dade County.

Seymour is the go-to guy for his vast knowledge, his capabilities in research and instruction, and his friendly style. His voice is reassuring and recognized across Miami and South Miami-Dade County. You can see the stamp of Seymour Goldweber's experience and loaned expertise with many organizations, including the American Society for Horticultural Science, the Dade County Farm Bureau, the Florida State Horticultural Society, the Florida Avocado and Lime Administrative Committees, the Mango Forum, and the Dade County Youth Fair, Miami-Dade County's Fruit and Spice Park, and the State of Florida's Farmers Market, and so many others.

Seymour is a founding member of the AGRI-Council, the Rare Fruit Council International, the Tropical Agriculture Fiesta, and Fairchild Tropical Gardens.

He also serves on the South Dade Soil and Water Conservation District Board and the Dade County Public School Citizen Advisory Committee for AGRIBusiness and Natural Resources.

He is a member of the National Association of the Federal Retired Employees and a proud member of the American Legion.

Seymour Goldweber has been honored by the National Weather Service for 24 years as the liaison to the agricultural community. He also has an annual scholarship in his name that is presented by the AGRI Council to the outstanding agricultural student of the year.

He has received the Dedicated Service in Agriculture award by the Horticultural Society of Florida, the Distinguished Service in Agriculture award by the Florida Mango Forum, and the Outstanding Service Award by the Dade County Youth Fair.

Seymour was named Man of the Year by the Horticulture Studies Society of Florida in 1980. He was honored to receive the Paul Harris Fellow by the Rotary Club of Homestead for furthering understanding of people of the world.

Mr. Goldweber is the sought-after speaker for highly diverse audiences, including farmers, master gardeners, community and agri-business leaders, school teachers, homeowners, youth and 4-H programs, and local, State and Federal Government representatives.

Many growers, local leaders, and organizations seek him out for his knowledge and his repertoire on agricultural issues and historical events.

Upon his retirement from the Cooperative Extension Service in 1984, after 24 years of outstanding service, Seymour was awarded the first Extension Agent Emeritus Designation in the State of Florida. Though he was officially, and

is supposedly, retired, his service to the community has continued to this day.

Seymour Goldweber continues to work for us, for the sheer love of agriculture, tropical fruits, and the growers who need and love him.

To our hero, Seymour Goldweber, and his wonderful wife, Libby, felicidades a los dos.

DO NOT POSITION USA AS A COMMON ENEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, coming from a family of combat infantry men and Marines, I must say that anytime this Congress is asked to consider the authorization for the use of force, it is a request that we consider very seriously. I might add that most of those who are making this request from the White House have never served in combat themselves. Certainly the Secretary of Defense has not. Certainly the Communications Director of the White House who made the flippant statements this week that one silver bullet is cheaper than going to war, in referencing a possible assassination in Iraq, is one of the most appalling comments I have ever heard from a White House official. If he had been in the service of Franklin Roosevelt or Harry Truman or John Kennedy, he would no longer have a job.

The resolution this Congress will be asked to consider next week is a work in progress. Initially it started with inspections where we had the broad support of the international community. And all we needed to do was expand that a little bit and be rigorous, as we have done before, working with our allies around the world. But, no, the ante was raised by the White House conveniently 4 weeks before an election now and the objective is regime change.

The President has said it, it is not disallowed in the resolution that is brought up to us; and I want to speak tonight a little bit about how the United States, not just through this resolution but through the rhetoric that has been spewing out of Washington here across the Islamic and Arab world, is going to increase terrorism, is going to increase hatred toward the United States of America. When the President of the United States uses terms like dead or alive, do you think General Omar Bradley would have ever said that? General Hugh Shelton, would he have ever used those terms so publicly?

When you have not been to war, you are loose with your rhetoric.

Senator Warren Rudman, who helped produce a report with Senator George Mitchell about the rising threat of terrorism around the world, sobered our membership when he came up here a few months ago and said though he had traveled the world as a Senator, he did

not realize until he got into the issue of terrorism how much he found America hated around the world.

Tonight I want to place in the RECORD a longer analysis of what is really wrong with U.S. policy towards that region of the world, but let us be clear where the hatred comes from and what spawns the terrorism.

First of all, we have the lack in the Middle East and Central Asia of a real resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This has been with us in the free world for over 50 years. We do not have a peace process under way. Every night we see in the newspapers or we see on television more killing of Israelis by Palestinians or vice versa.

There was a great cartoon, a sad cartoon, in one of the newspapers recently showing Mr. Sharon and Mr. Arafat holding hands and falling together down a deep cavern and blaming one another as they fell to their certain deaths.

We as a world need to organize in order to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Without it, terrorism will continue not only in that region of the world but will find its way creeping into our homeland as we saw on 9-11.

The other major issue deals with U.S. ties to the oil kingdoms in the Middle East on which we have become even more dependent than during the oil crises of the 1970s and the Persian Gulf War in the early 1990s, and importantly to the repressive regimes that our dollars help support. There is a very rude awakening in the Middle East and Central Asia for a different way of life and America is fast becoming the excuse for the repression under which the majority of people live all in undemocratic regimes.

So my first advice tonight is please, Mr. President, do not position the United States as the common enemy that serves as a unifying force against which all the disparate malcontents and discontents of the Middle East and Central Asia can unite. We saw a sign of that in our homeland last year. But not only our homeland, across the world American embassies are being built like bunkers. Our diplomats are being killed more and more, every 10 years more of them are killed, whether it is Africa, whether it is Malaysia, whether it is the Middle East.

To achieve long-term stability, the United States' policy toward the Arab and Islamic world must be shaped multilaterally and affirm our belief in democratic principals. Unfortunately, the Bush administration's policies continue us down this dangerous path.

ALLIES WORKING TOWARD A SECURE FUTURE

To achieve long-term stability, U.S. policy toward the Arab and Islamic world must be shaped multilaterally and affirm our nation's belief in democratic principles. The Bush Administration's initiatives will lead to neither. Indeed, it is positioning the U.S. to be the common enemy in a volatile region where terrorism grows with each passing decade of war and remembrance.

Bush policies—such as threatening regime change or the “one bullet policy” on Iraq—

are destabilizing and pose a real threat to U.S. long-term interests. These irresponsible policies inject the U.S. into the festering antipathy of disparate forces whose common denominator is growing anti-Western sentiment.

Thus, a resolution that employs all diplomatic and economic means to draw broad multilateral support to allow U.N. arms inspectors access to conduct robust investigations of Iraq's suspected weapons sites is of paramount importance. As a first step, Congress should support the recently negotiated international agreement allowing inspectors to return to Iraq after four years. Especially in this region of the world, former Senator George Mitchell emphasizes the importance of diplomacy in the Mitchell Report, “Whatever the source, violence will not solve the problems of the region. It will only make them worse. Death and destruction will not bring peace, but will deepen the hatred and harden the resolve on both sides. There is only one way to peace, justice, and security in the Middle East, and that is through negotiation.”

FIRST STRIKE

Based on the lack of verifiable evidence presented to Congress and the American people, the President's proposal to preemptively, or unilaterally, strike against Iraq is unacceptable. Due to the predictably destabilizing effect on the region, the U.S. should avoid a first strike. Dr. Mark Juergensmeyer, Director of Global and International Studies at U.C. Santa Barbara, “It is essential that a multilateral force be deployed if action is contemplated.”

If America goes to war, the cause must be just and better justified.

TOWARD A CHANGED REGION

Powerful Islamic stirrings inside undemocratic regimes in the Middle East and Central Asia, including violent forces operating outside nation-states (like Al Qaeda), create conditions for emerging revolutions. In responding to these, the U.S. must act in a manner that is true to our founding principles as the world's oldest democratic republic. We, too, have been a revolutionary people aspiring to a better way of life.

We must not wed ourselves to monarchy, dictatorship, or repression. As a superpower, the U.S. must position itself for long-term, relations with many emerging nations. The U.S. should not become the inheritor of a new world order in the Middle East and Central Asia, nor an occupying force. Simply put, U.S. dominance there is not unilaterally sustainable.

GRAVE AND GATHERING VS. IMMINENT THREAT

Congress must ask: what is the “imminent threat” to the U.S. that justifies a war resolution now? The President, in his remarks before the U.N., stated, “Iraq is a grave and gathering danger.” He did not say “an imminent threat.”

What has Iraq done differently in the last 4 months than the prior year to warrant invasion now? Yes, Iraq is a secular state that seeks greater domination over the Arab world. But intelligence briefings have indicated that Iraq has fewer military capabilities than it did 10 years ago. Secretary Rumsfeld has stated that Iraq's army is only 40% of what it was 10 years ago. The Central Intelligence Agency and Defense Intelligence Agency have verified that Iraq's chemical and nuclear capabilities are substantially less than 10 years ago. However, in the area of biologics, Iraq is likely ahead of where it was 10 years ago.

The international community has the opportunity to use its united efforts to require Iraq to abide by U.N. resolutions requiring immediate access to verify Iraq's commitment to rid itself of weapons of mass destruction and long-range missiles.