

it is okay for any other country; and so I think that this is a moment where we must go back to the drawing board, I think reevaluate our foreign policy, and reevaluate the axis of evil concept because I believe that it is provocative; and I do not believe that we are any safer, that this course that we are on and that policy will not lead to more security. I think it is very dangerous. It does not lead to peace in the world.

I want to thank the Congressional Black Caucus for making sure the American people know there are many of us who believe that.

Mr. CUMMINGS. One of the things that was so interesting, I shall never forget at the State of the Union address, if my colleagues recall, there was a part of the speech the President made that showed over and over again on the television, when he said that we in our generation right now must take care of this situation and that we should not leave it to future generations to address terrorism and what have you. Basically what he was saying, too, is that we should be paying for it. It is going to be impossible for us, the living, to completely pay for this war. This war will be paid for by our children and our children's children and our children's children's children; and when we look at this \$87 billion again, one wonders where does it end, and that is why this whole question of exit strategy is so very significant.

How do we mention success? At what point do we say, okay, we have done the job, we have accomplished what we are supposed to accomplish?

I just thank the Congressional Black Caucus for coming together this evening and constantly over and over again being that conscience of the Congress and I would say the conscience of the country; and I will yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE).

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, my colleagues mentioned the human factor, and I want to take us back briefly to the Vietnam War because we know that many of our contemporaries and others, people that live in our neighborhoods, maybe some of the homeless men that we see in the streets of our cities and I do not think the Vietnam veterans would mind us expressing their plight because they come to me all the time, and I want to make it very clear that there is not one whose support that I diminish, that I take away from them because of this war or that war. They obeyed orders. They took the oath. They offered themselves for my freedom.

But we are reminded of the Vietnam War, and I see a lot of the brothers of all colors, shapes, sizes. I have spent Christmas days with them, as my colleagues all have, in homeless shelters, the aftermath of that war, the pain of that war, the pain of being subjected to guerrilla warfare, the pain of not knowing who the enemy is or was, and so they do not want to be caught up in

shooting the wrong person. I am fearful without an exit strategy, and I think the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) mentioned that this guerrilla warfare, not knowing who the enemy is and then not having an exit strategy, so not having a definitive time certain to come home to your loved ones.

And then when you come home, what I am hearing is that we have got to cut mental health services on the bases, so that means the traumatic experiences that families are having, where are the counselors? I am hearing, as was said, that we are paying for meals in hospitals. I am hearing that veterans services are being cut. I am hearing that these young men or women returning may not have the ability to go to college because Pell grants are being cut.

What are we saying to these young people coming back, no jobs, families in distress, families maybe in disarray? I am not condemning. You may come back and the family was strong and they welcome you back. What about the mourning parents who are mourning the loss of a 19-year-old, who just want some connection? They are no longer connected to the military. I do not know what they do with military families who have lost a loved one, and so I think what you are doing here tonight is so crucial because we are asking questions that apparently they are trying to cover up, hide or they are not putting the human face to.

She is not here, but I just want to say the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) recently visited one of our wounded individuals. She said that person lost their limbs and was blinded in one eye. That is the human face, why we are here tonight and talking about this issue.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MEEK).

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, quickly, I just want to make sure Americans understand, be very quick, you need to look at your children and you need to look at your grandchildren. The administration is saying ask no questions. They are spending their future away. If your child's class size is 30, now look for it to be 50 because this government will continue to cut back so local governments will be in deficit spending.

Right now the States are \$70 billion in deficits and that will continue. So I am not looking forward to doing things on a credit card. I am looking forward to doing things the way we are supposed to do and govern, and when I hear the President say we need to fight the war on terror in Iraq and not here, being in Iraq has nothing to do with fighting the war on terror in the United States.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, we merely say to the President, be accountable, be accountable. I thank my colleagues very much.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I came to the floor this evening to join my colleagues and hoping to educate the American public about what is going on with our government and what is happening with the request for \$87 billion to continue the war in Iraq.

I think it should be very, very clear and I would like to set the record straight for myself. I will not support \$87 billion to continue this war under any circumstances. I am very clear about that. As a matter of fact, I have been concerned. When it first came to light that the President was requesting \$87 billion, I heard some of my colleagues in the other House say, we are going to ask him some tough questions; we are going to ask them all kinds of questions about what they did with the money that we appropriated before. But they all conclude by saying, but we are going to have to give him the \$87 billion.

I have not and will not reach such a conclusion, a, because the President and his representatives, whether it is Condoleezza Rice or Colin Powell or Wolfowitz or any of the rest of them, DICK CHENEY included, they will come to this Congress and they will tell us whatever they think they need to tell us in order to get what they want. They have not been truthful in any shape, form, or fashion; and they continue to defend this preemptive strike and to mislead us about what they are doing.

Madam Speaker, I do not want anybody to say that because I do not support the \$87 billion that I am unpatriotic. That old accusation has worn out. It has worn thin. The President and his representatives have threatened everybody with we are going to call you unpatriotic if you do not do or say what we want you to do or say. Well, I am not threatened or intimidated by that. I am not going to support \$87 billion, and I am more patriotic than they are.

As a matter of fact, as I stand here tonight, there is a traitor in the White House, a traitor who has outed a CIA operative, placed a woman's life on the line because they chose to be vindictive and to get back at her husband because he, in fact, helped to reveal the fact that he was the one that had been dispatched to Niger to find out whether or not Saddam Hussein had tried to get uranium to further his efforts to build nuclear warfare; and because he told the truth, the ambassador told the truth, he simply said I told the CIA that, in fact, there was no evidence to show that there had been an attempt by Saddam Hussein to get uranium from Niger, but the President put it in his speech to this House and said in so many words and led the American people to believe that it was another reason why it was important for him to

have this preemptive strike. Well, there is a traitor in the White House. They are unpatriotic, and I do not want to hear them utter the word one more time about who is patriotic and who is not.

As a matter of fact, as we look at how we have been misled, we need to remind the American public over and over again that we support our soldiers. We are upset that they have not had the equipment to keep them safe and secure and all that we thought they had. Each day we are finding out more and more about that which they have not had and ways that they have been suffering.

We have been misled by Donald Rumsfeld. Donald Rumsfeld comes up to this House and gives us so-called classified briefings. We do not learn any more from him than we learn on CNN; and Members have been too intimidated to ask him the tough questions, to push him up against the wall and tell him when they think that he has been misleading us, but just take a look in the ways that we have been misled.

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First of all, we must say over and over again, remember, they said they were going to do this preemptive strike because Saddam Hussein was harboring weapons of mass destruction. They have found none. There are none. I do not think they will ever find them.

But, of course, Mr. Wolfowitz said, we just told them that. He had the arrogance and the audacity to say, well, we thought that would be the best way to get support for the war. So they misled us, told us a lie, basically, that there were weapons of mass destruction.

And then they told us that they had drones. And these drones that were normally used for surveillance were equipped to deploy biological and chemical warfare. Another lie. The uranium lie.

I will close by saying we have been misled; we have been lied to. The American public should not feel mispatriotic. Do not support this war. Tell your Congresspeople not to spend \$87 billion on this war.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a concurrent resolution of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. Con. Res. 71. Concurrent Resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate.

IMMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION REFORM

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Michigan). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to discuss an issue that often I bring to the attention of this body, and that is of course immigration and immigration reform, an issue that I think we spend far too little time discussing here.

I was compelled to come tonight to share an e-mail message I received just a couple of days ago. It is from a lady by the name of Rhonda Rose. And Ms. Rose speaks, I think, compellingly about a problem, a set of problems, that she perceives in her area. And I think she is not unique in this. I think she speaks for many Americans, in fact, millions of Americans. So I thought I would start tonight by sharing this particular e-mail message to me with my colleagues.

It says, "My story: I live in a world where I do not count. I'm not a minority. I'm poor. I don't have coalitions rallying for what I feel is important. I don't have news reporters writing about 'poor me,' but I have views. I vote, I pay taxes, and I know there are millions of people in America just like me.

"I live next to a shelter built by politicians who are afraid to have an opinion about closing the border. Daily, 1,500 illegals come and visit that shelter. It was supposed to keep these 'poor people' from urinating and defecating on the streets. It didn't. My home and my vehicles have been broken into 22 times in 5 years.

"I stopped calling the police each time now that this happens because they do not come any more. Instead, we bought a gun. We scared off the last person trying to steal our truck. The only English he knew was enough to say 'sorry' as we pointed at him. Three months later we still have a towel over the smashed driver's-side window.

"Last week, I was ordered to pay an \$85 fine for a false alarm. Police showed up for that hearing. The police couldn't find any criminal at my home when my home alarm sounded. I'm curious how long police think bad guys 'hang around' after an alarm has been triggered.

"I was involved in an accident in my car. The policeman said I would have to wait while he called for backup. My baby was screaming. The police had no film in the camera. The backup police had no fingerprinting ink or film. The person who ran into me was here illegally. He had a fake ID, but the police said there was nothing that they could do about it; the illegal alien would just get another fake ID and would never show up for court. He didn't have insurance. The illegal alien who hit me said sorry as he was walking away. He was free to go. I was free to pay the deductible on my car and the chiropractor bills for my children and myself. If I drove without insurance and hurt someone or their possessions, I would be forced to pay for the damages or lose everything I had.

"My husband works 6 days a week as a framing contractor. He pays FICA,

Social Security, State taxes, Federal taxes, general liability insurance, workman's comp. insurance, and probably others that I don't remember. His workman's comp just skyrocketed from \$5,000 per year to \$28,000 per year. Now, I ask you, where are we going to come up with the extra \$23,000? We had no claims. Should I take it out of my food budget? We often go weeks without meat. Should it come from our clothing budget? We buy our clothes at thrift sales and savers. How about our entertainment account? Does seeing a movie every month qualify?

"My home insurance costs me \$100 more yearly because I live in a border State. How long before Kansas becomes a border State? I have had no medical insurance for years and years. I can't afford it. At 33, I got cancer. My doctor told me to go to ACCHS. I don't remember how to spell the State's medical system, since they declined me.

"My husband's company had no profit in 6 months due to theft and lack of laws at the time to force general contractors to pay. Without studying my receipts, I was declined. Interesting that hundreds of illegal aliens in this country standing in line were being given food stamps and medical care. They did not have Social Security numbers; they did not speak English. If you don't believe me," she says, "look at the application DES."

I am sorry, Madam Speaker, but I do not know what that stands for.

"Spend 5 minutes at DES and remind yourself why you pay taxes. You won't be smiling.

"Taxes. Well, we fell behind one year. I contacted the IRS and told them we wanted to make arrangements to pay. We now show the IRS everything we buy, from the female items to chewing gum, they see the receipt. For the next year we will be scrutinized. For the next 5 years we will be audited. Maybe I should never have done the right thing and told them.

"My son cries nightly because his legs and arms hurt. He has cried for almost 7 years. My husband often walks on one leg because his back and leg pain is almost unbearable. Monthly I have many strokes. During those times I lose the ability to speak well, and I have had seizures until I lose consciousness. We really don't know what is wrong with any of us. We may never know. We can't afford a doctor. God forbid we need emergency services. Thirty percent of the time hospitals are on divert status because there is no room. Illegal aliens have taken their kids to the ER for colds and sore throats. I would only go if I lost a limb or if my heart gave out.

"Two years ago, I announced to my family there would be no turkey for Thanksgiving. We would eat pasta and be thankful we were a family. My Catholic friend made arrangements for me to get a food box from her church. I went, reluctantly. I drove up in my broken old van and saw a lot of full new, stickers attached, Suburbans. My