

cultural diversity and to become part of Europe. While Sarajevo was under siege, he correctly asserted that international principles of tolerance and respect were as threatened as that city's population. As the feckless United Nations and Europe failed to stop the conflict quickly, Izetbegovic's Bosnia became increasingly vulnerable to militant Islamic infiltration as well as corruption, both of which plague the country to this day.

From his hospital bed in late September, however, Alija Izetbegovic was quoted as saying to the media that Bosnia will survive as a state if "Serbs stay Serbs, Croats stay Croats, and [Muslims] stay [Muslims], but they also should all be Bosnians . . . Nobody should seek revenge but rather justice, because revenge starts a chain of evil that has no end," adding that people "should not forget the past but not live in it. They should turn toward the future."

As I note the passing of Alija Izetbegovic, Mr. Speaker, and we express our condolences to his family, friends and supporters, we should also recall with equal sadness the troubled times he and the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina faced a decade ago.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
AND THE LEWIS AND CLARK BI-
CENTENNIAL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, The Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition is being commemorated between 2003 and 2006. As we celebrate the Bicentennial, the famous expedition evokes pride and awe in countless Americans who reflect on its achievements. While most Americans have some knowledge of the expedition, relatively few recognize that it was an Army endeavor. It was not an accident that President Jefferson turned to the Army for the mission. President Jefferson chose the Army for his Corps of Discovery because it was the "right tool" for the arduous job. Frontier soldiers possessed the toughness, teamwork, discipline and training appropriate to the challenge of exploring the newly acquired lands. Most importantly, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were outstanding officers and leaders who had previously served the Army with distinction.

Today, the route followed by the Lewis and Clark Expedition lies within eight Corps districts. By virtue of its stewardship role for the Nation's rivers and its Army heritage of exploring and mapping the western United States, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will play a key leadership role in the observance of the Bicentennial. Of the more than 5,000 miles of trail from Pittsburgh to the Pacific Ocean, the Corps directly or indirectly manages nearly 4,700 river miles. Corps management activities include navigation channel maintenance, levee maintenance, environmental permitting responsibilities, and operation of the reservoirs and locks/dams. Because the Corps manages more of the trail than any other governmental entity, and it is the largest Federal provider of outdoor recreation opportunities in the country, the Corps will play an important role during the Bicentennial Commemoration.

The Commemoration officially began in January 2003 at Monticello and will retrace the original expedition across the United States and back. There are 17 Signature events planned and organized under the guidance of the Lewis and Clark bicentennial Council. The Corps of Engineers will support these Signature events by participating in the Federal interagency project called Corps of Discovery II—200 Years to the Future, which is a traveling exhibition and classroom, providing educational programs for school children, and manning displays and exhibits.

The overall goal of the Corps' participation in the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commemoration is to accommodate the anticipated increased visitation, ensure a safe visitor experience, and provide information on the Expedition, the Army, and the Corps—all with minimal impact on the environment. To reach this goal, the Corps is working to upgrade sanitary facilities, visitor centers and campgrounds. The Chief of Engineers has emphasized that park facilities should be in good condition to support the additional visitation and visitor expectations, particularly those facilities that are on the Lewis and Clark trail or within 50 miles of a signature event. To reach the "safe visitor experience" objective, the Corps will provide water safety information specific to reservoirs and rivers along the Lewis and Clark route, including locking and portage procedures, the identification of hazardous areas, fueling areas, and the location of boat ramps. The Corps is also cooperating with other Federal, State and local enforcement, safety and emergency agencies to provide the essential public safety services along the route. The Corps will provide information to the public during the Bicentennial to educate about the expedition and the contribution of the Army to the success of the expedition. The legacy of the expedition is also an important story, including the role the Corps of Engineers played in exploration and development of the waterways that opened the west to river travel and the continuing role of the Corps in developing, managing, and protecting the Nation's water resources.

The Corps is also a partner and sponsor of the Ft. Leavenworth re-enactors who will attend many of the Signature events and portray the Lewis and Clark expedition as an Army reconnaissance mission. The Corps is the sponsor of numerous educational products including a discovery box educational kit which is used by Corps park rangers to educate school children about the Lewis and Clark Expedition as a military expedition. Other educational products that we have partnered in include an interagency brochure, car audio tours, a training academy for educators, exhibits and a film that will be marketed to public television. Lewis and Clark began the legacy of Army exploration of the American West which led to the Corps long tradition of service to our customers—the American public.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2003

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, today I voted "no" on final passage of H.R. 3161. While acknowl-

edging my opposition to this bill is unpopular—even in my own household—I believe I voted correctly.

Telemarketing calls bother me as much as the next person and I understand the desire to prohibit them. But I do not believe that asking the government to take care of this problem is the answer. New products are now on the market (Caller ID, voice mail systems, answering machines, Privacy Director, Call Reject, etc.) that inhibit the activity of telemarketers, and states are passing their own laws to address this issue. In fact, Arizona began enforcing the state's own telemarketing restrictions on October 1, 2003.

Most people know that H.R. 3161 provided authority to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to implement and enforce a national do-not-call registry. What many do not know, however, is that the bill allows government bureaucrats to pick and choose which calls consumers can block. It is not surprising that consumers cannot sign up to not be bothered by politicians. I would be willing to bet that consumers will find those calls to be just as annoying as any others. When government sets the rules, it must not discriminate based on the content of the calls. That's what the First Amendment means.

I consistently vote against additional federal regulations. Granting the FTC additional authority to further regulate on this matter, however popular, would be inconsistent with my record.

CONGRATULATING REVEREND
THOMAS J. O'HARA ON BEING
HONORED BY THE ETHICS INSTI-
TUTE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Thomas J. O'Hara as he is honored by the Ethics Institute of Northeastern Pennsylvania at College Misericordia this Thursday, October 23, 2003, at the Woodlands in Wilkes-Barre.

Father Tom has been a part of the King's College campus since 1988 and has served as the Professor of Political Science and Vice President of Academic Affairs. About four years ago, Father Tom was chosen to lead King's College as its President.

Father Tom is a native of Northeastern Pennsylvania and is involved in many community activities in addition to his demanding schedule as President of the college. He serves on the boards of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, the Osterhout Free Library, St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, the Earth Conservancy, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, City Vest, and the Council of Presidents.

He will be honored for his commitment to both civility and ethical leadership. Father Thomas O'Hara is a community icon in Wilkes-Barre who leads by example. I am pleased that he is receiving well-deserved recognition for his ethical and effective leadership.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent a man who has played an important leadership role in educating and shaping our future generation in Northeastern Pennsylvania and throughout the nation. His style of

leadership and integrity makes him a worthy role model for the students and educators who he comes in contact with as President of King's College. I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to Father Tom as he receives this well deserved honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2003

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber on October 20, 2003. I would like the record to show that had I been present in this chamber, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 563, 564 and 565.

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of President Bush, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and our country's efforts to bring peace and stability to Iraq. I also rise in support of the Pence amendment. This amendment would ensure that we will recoup some of our investment as we work to stabilize Iraq's future.

We supplied our troops with the tools they needed to free Iraq from the Hussein regime. Now we must supply our troops with the tools they need to complete the Iraqi reconstruction and return home. Iraq is in the middle of an international terrorism hotbed. If we fail to support our troops and their efforts, Iraq may regress, and the sacrifice would be for naught. I cannot, and will not, let this happen. Our troops have fought too hard to liberate Iraq.

Just as our troops make sacrifices for a successful Iraqi government and secure Iraqi economy so must we, the American taxpayers, make a financial sacrifice to invest in the future of a free Iraq. A stable Iraq strengthens the safety of our own homeland, and this security is worth the price. This investment is an investment in the future of democracy.

HONORING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF GALLATIN'S FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 24, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 175th year of existence of the First Presbyterian Church in Gallatin, Tennessee. The congregation will celebrate the church's 175th anniversary on Sunday, October 26, 2003.

The historical church was organized on October 25, 1828, after a revival led by the Rev. John W. Hall. Constructed in 1836–37, the building is registered by the Historical Society of Philadelphia as an American Presbyterian

and Reformed Historical Site. The church's sanctuary was even used as a hospital by federal troops during the Civil War.

The Middle Tennessee church has served its community and congregation well for nearly two centuries, a time during which our nation struggled through much change and innovation. Through all of it, though, the First Presbyterian Church never faltered in its commitment to bring the Lord's word to the people.

Gallatin is a much stronger community because of the work of the church and its congregation. Members of the church actively participate in all facets of community life in Gallatin and elsewhere, including helping the less fortunate in Matamoros, Mexico. I congratulate the congregation's dedicated service to humanity and wish the church continued success during its next 175 years of existence.

SYRIA ACCOUNTABILITY AND LEBANESE SOVEREIGNTY RESTORATION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 15, 2003

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in condemning Syria for its support for international terrorism. I do not support the Syria Accountability Act, however, because I believe it limits the President's options in dealing with Syria at a time when he should have flexibility. Furthermore, I do not believe that unilateral economic sanctions are effective—especially against regimes who are only concerned with remaining in power. Such regimes will still have food on their plates and roofs over their heads while the ordinary people of their countries are left to suffer even more.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 6 ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion offered by my colleague and good friend from Massachusetts, ED MARKEY. The motion instructs the conferees to the Energy bill to adopt the unclear security provisions included in the House bill and subsequently dropped in the conference report.

Since September 11, 2001, intelligence officials have amassed a critical body of evidence suggesting terrorist intentions to strike our nuclear infrastructure. Plans of U.S. nuclear facilities discovered in al Qaeda caves during U.S. military operations in Afghanistan provided perhaps the earliest indication that terrorists had not casually contemplated but rather carefully studied the option of sabotaging a nuclear reactor. In early March, 2003 fresh intelligence confirmed our worst fears: terrorists continued to plot attacks against nuclear and other critical infrastructure. Subsequent reports of a terrorist plan to sabotage the Palo Verde nuclear power plants in Arizona were suffi-

ciently serious that the National Guard was immediately deployed to secure the plant.

In light of these facts, the conferees' decision to weaken nuclear security language included in the House report is incomprehensible. I'd like to focus on the two changes that concern me the most:

(1) Federal Oversight of Emergency Preparedness at Nuclear Power Plants—the House bill required the NRC to consult with the Department of Homeland Security before issuing or renewing a license to operate a new or existing power plant to ensure adequate steps could be taken to protect the public in the event of a terrorist strike. Unfortunately, the conferees appear ready to eliminate this most basic protective standard. Failure to adopt the House language would permit the NRC to continue its present neglect of the post-September 11th reality. Indeed, the NRC, the agency responsible for assuring the safety and security of the country's 103 commercial reactors, has flatly denied petitions by citizen groups for reinforcement of the spent fuel pools at Millstone Nuclear Power Station in Connecticut, stating "the possibility of a terrorist attack is speculative . . . and simply too far removed from the natural or expected consequences of agency action."

NRC's oversight of emergency preparedness at the Indian Point Energy Center, a nuclear facility located just north of my district in Buchanan, New York, was wholly inadequate, and demonstrates the need for greater consultation with DHS. NRC, defying the opinions of numerous experts, insisted that emergency planning for an accidental and terrorist-related radiation release were identical. A terrorist attack, which could create paranoia, provoke residents to self-evacuate, and damage evacuation roads and reception centers, would surely pose unique planning challenges. The Commission also contended that a radiological release from a terrorist attack would be no larger and spread no faster than that from an accident. Indeed, it incorrectly assumed that any radiological plume would develop over 8 hours, even though a terrorist attack could result in a radiological release in as little as 40 minutes. Entergy, which owns Indian Point, has optimistically estimated that evacuation of the 10-mile radius around the plants would take 11 hours, making public exposure to radiation likely. Westchester County has publicly stated that mobilizing emergency response teams and notifying the public within the new time requirements would be nearly impossible. Despite these facts, NRC refused to perform an independent review of Indian Point's emergency response plans, instead certifying them within one hour of FEMA's approval. I fear that in the absence of a legal requirement to consult with DHS, NRC neglect of terrorist threats will persist.

(2) Upgrade of the Design Basis Threat. The House bill mandated that the NRC issue regulations, "including changes to the design basis threat, to ensure that licensees address the threats" of a terrorist attack within one year of enactment of the bill. The conference report would authorize but not mandate that NRC upgrade nuclear security regulations to reflect the findings of a comprehensive study on air, land, and water-based threats to nuclear reactors. Some 25 months after September 11th, NRC still rejects the possibility of a coordinated strike on a nuclear power plant involving several large teams of