

I am proud to serve as a Co-Chair of the Congressional Malaysia Trade, Security, and Economic Cooperation Caucus along with my good friend, the Honorable GREGORY W. MEEKS of New York. This is an important tribute from the House of Representatives to the people of Malaysia, as we honor a landmark day in their history. The United States was one of the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the newly independent Malaysia 50 years ago, and I am proud of how the United States/Malaysian relationship has prospered since their independence.

Malaysia has a population in excess of 25 million, and is a moderate-Muslim democratic nation in a key geo-politically sensitive region of the world. Malaysia is currently our 10th largest trading partner, and I hope that our trade relationship with Malaysia will expand. We have inked a Trade and Investment Framework Agreement with Malaysia, and our countries are currently in talks for a free trade agreement. I am hopeful that these talks will produce a free trade agreement accord that Congress will be able to pass. This enhanced economic partnership would be of great benefit to the businesses and citizens of both countries.

Malaysia has been a regional leader in many areas of mutual concern to the United States and Malaysia, they are a leader in counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics in Southeast Asia. Through intelligence sharing, close cooperation in law enforcement, participation in joint exercises and training, and other cooperative endeavors with its neighboring countries and the United States, Malaysia is a leader in many of our shared interests.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our recently departed Ambassador to Malaysia, Ambassador Christopher J. LaFleur, for his service of representing the interests of the United States in Kuala Lumpur. Moreover, I would like to thank the current Charge d'affaires ad interim for the American Embassy in Malaysia, David B. Shear, and the Malaysia Desk Officer at the State Department in Washington, Michael P. Taylor, for their service and hard work. Recently, I had the opportunity to meet our new Ambassador to Malaysia, Ambassador James R. Keith. Ambassador Keith has my full confidence and gratitude; he is a seasoned diplomat of great skill, and I wish him a good start to his duties in representing the United States in Malaysia.

I have also had the pleasure of working with many fine diplomats from Malaysia; I would like to recognize the current Ambassador from Malaysia to the United States, H.E. Datuk Dr. Rajmah Hussain. I would also like to note her immediate predecessor, who I worked with for several years, H.E. Tan Sri Ghazzali B. Sheikh Abdul Khalid. Ambassador Ghazzali was Malaysia's long-tenured representative in Washington, and I am pleased that he is currently engaged in the free trade talks between our two countries. I thank Ambassadors Rajmah and Ghazzali for their services in representing Malaysia in Washington.

I congratulate the people of Malaysia on the occasion of this landmark day in their history, and firmly believe that our bilateral relationship will only continue to grow and prosper.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 518, which recognizes the 50th anniversary of Malaysia's independence. H. Res. 518 acknowledges the Federation of Malaysia's accomplishments

over the past 50 years. In addition, H. Res. 518 recognizes the importance to the United States' strong bilateral relationship with Malaysia and endorses this relationship to continue to prosper. It is important for the United States to make this demonstration and endorsement not only because of our relationship with Malaysia but also because we share a similar history of gaining independence and implementing democracy. Therefore, we are proudly participating in the celebration of a government that has liberated its people and provides freedom in the name of democracy.

Mr. Speaker, celebrating Malaysia's 50th anniversary is significant because it shows her strength and perseverance towards maintaining freedom. Malaysia shows its determination throughout its history by gaining its independence in 1957, defeating communists soon after gaining independence, surviving through turmoil in 1960s, recession and political repression in the 1980s, and more unrest in the 1990s.

Today, Malaysia is a nation of skyscrapers and microchip plants, fast highways and sprawling cities where the government talks of Malaysia's role in biotech, or conference hosting or Islamic finance. It is almost unrecognizable from the independent Federation of Malaya of 31 August 1957, when its first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al Haj stood tall in a specially built stadium in Kuala Lumpur and raised his right arm as the crowd echoed his three cries of "Merdeka!" which means freedom. At that time 60% of Malaysians were living below the national poverty line according to Dr. Richard Leete, head of the UN Development Program for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei. Over the past 50 years that proportion has declined remarkably and currently there are less than 5% of people in poverty in Malaysia.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 518 also gives us the opportunity to support key American values and interests. By supporting this bill the United States will essentially be supporting a multi-religious and multiracial democracy. In addition, the United States will be supporting the condemnation of racism, religious hatred, and anti-Semitism. Also, the United States will be supporting Malaysia's condemnation of all forms of terrorism and assistance in the War on Terror. Finally, the United States will be supporting the success of our 10th largest trade partner, who we are currently in talks with about a free trade agreement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 518 and commending Malaysia on the 50th anniversary of its freedom.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 518, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECOGNIZING THE REMARKABLE EXAMPLE OF SIR NICHOLAS WINTON

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 583) recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 583

Whereas during the Holocaust, in which some 6,000,000 Jews were brutally put to death by the Government of Nazi Germany, a small number of individuals risked their lives and spent fortunes to save the lives of others because they were decent and courageous men and women of principle;

Whereas, in October 1938, the Nazi Government occupied the Sudetenland area of Czechoslovakia, which resulted in tens of thousands of Jewish refugees fleeing the occupied areas and seeking safety in the areas of as-yet unoccupied Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, in late 1938, a 29-year-old British businessman, Nicholas Winton, was encouraged by a friend at the British Embassy in Prague to forgo a ski vacation in the Alps to visit Prague and see first-hand the freezing refugee camps filled with Jewish families who had fled the Sudetenland;

Whereas, in the face of this enormous suffering, Winton, moved by feelings of deep compassion, undertook a massive effort to help the children of many of these Jewish families escape these horrible circumstances, though at that time neither he nor they knew the full extent of the horrors that awaited them;

Whereas Winton sought to find friendly governments which would grant asylum to these Jewish refugee children, and his efforts were rebuffed by the countries whose help he requested, until the Governments of Sweden and the United Kingdom agreed to accept children from the Czechoslovakian refugee camps;

Whereas Winton and other volunteers gathered names and other information on children whose parents recognized the importance of getting their children beyond the reach of the Nazi Government, and Winton was able to use this information to identify foster homes for these refugee children;

Whereas Winton took the lead in raising funds to pay for the transportation of the children from Prague to Britain and Sweden and to pay an enormous government-imposed fee to cover the costs of future repatriation;

Whereas, on March 14, 1939, the first 20 children left Prague under Winton's auspices, and the very next day the Nazi army overran the remainder of un-occupied Czechoslovakia;

Whereas the heroic effort of Winton and other volunteers to assist these young children flee occupied Czechoslovakia continued for over six months until the outbreak of World War II on September 1, 1939, during which time 669 children were able to leave in a total of eight separate groups;

Whereas the ninth group of some 250 children was scheduled to leave Prague on September 3, 1939, but was halted following the outbreak of hostilities, and none of these 250 children lived to see the end of World War II six years later;

Whereas this group of 669 children, saved through the efforts of Winton and his collaborators, includes doctors, nurses, teachers, musicians, artists, writers, pilots, ministers, scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and a Member of the British Parliament, and today they and their children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren number over 5,000 individuals, and these individuals live in the United States, Canada, Australia, the Czech Republic, Britain, Germany, and other countries;

Whereas Winton's achievement went unrecognized and unacknowledged for more than half a century until his wife, who knew nothing of this life-saving work, came across an old leather briefcase in an attic in which she found lists of the children, letters from their parents and other materials documenting his efforts;

Whereas, of the 15,000 Czechoslovakian Jewish children who fled to refugee camps or who were forced into concentration camps during the Nazi occupation, only a handful survived World War II, and Vera Gissing, one of the children saved by Winton and the author of the script for the film "Nicholas Winton—the Power of Good", which won the Emmy Award in 2002, said that Winton "rescued the greater part of the Jewish children of my generation in Czechoslovakia. Very few of us met our parents again: they perished in concentration camps. Had we not been spirited away, we would have been murdered alongside them."; and

Whereas Winton has been honored with the title of Member of the British Empire (MBE), was awarded the Freedom of the City of Prague, received the Czech Order of T. G. Masaryk, and was given a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II for services to humanity: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends Sir Nicholas Winton and those British and Czechoslovakian citizens who worked with him, for their remarkable persistence and selfless courage in saving the lives of 669 Czechoslovakian Jewish children in the months before the outbreak of World War II; and

(2) urges men and women everywhere to recognize in Winton's remarkable humanitarian effort the difference that one devoted principled individual can make in changing and improving the lives of others.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I thank the leadership of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Chairman LANTOS and our senior ranking member, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for their support on this resolution.

Let me also especially congratulate the chief sponsor and author of this important resolution, my good friend and member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman KLEIN, as well as the lead Republican cosponsor, Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART, for recognizing the unsung hero of World War II, Sir Nicholas Winton.

Mr. Speaker, whenever humanity is enshrouded in the darkness of atrocity and violence, there are a few scattered lights of moral decency and personal courage that give hope to all mankind that darkness will not prevail.

□ 1600

Arguably, Mr. Speaker, there has not been a more terrible period of darkness than that of World War II when Nazi Germany systematically murdered more than 6 million Jewish people. Even during that terrible period there were lights in the moral darkness and who kept alive the values of decency, compassion and courage. One such person was a 29-year-old British businessman, Mr. Nicholas Winton.

During his frequent business trips to Germany, Mr. Winton observed firsthand the virulent anti-Semitism that prevailed in that country and manifested itself in arrests, harassment, and physical attacks on Jewish people. In 1935, Germany codified anti-Semitism by enacting the Nuremberg Race Laws.

Mr. Speaker, after the Munich Agreement of 1938 and the subsequent annexation of Germany of the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia, Mr. Winton became concerned that Nazi Germany could not be appeased. Indeed, on November 9 of that year, 1938, anti-Semitic violence exploded across Germany and Austria. Because of the broken glass in the streets, that date is remembered as Kristallnacht.

Soon afterwards, Mr. Winton was encouraged even by a friend at the British Embassy in Prague to forgo a ski vacation in the Alps and instead to visit what was left of Czechoslovakia in order to see the refugee camps filled with freezing Jewish families who had fled the Sudetenland.

Mr. Speaker, he was deeply moved by the suffering he saw and was convinced immediate action had to be taken. Mr. Winton conceived of an idea. Upon his return to Great Britain, he organized volunteers to collect names of children whose parents were desperate to get them beyond the reach of the Nazi Government.

Mr. Winton then identified foster homes for those refugee children in Britain and in Sweden. He raised money to fund their transportation and to pay fees imposed by the government to cover the costs of future repatriation.

Mr. Speaker, on March 14, 1939, the first 20 children of this venture left Prague. The very next day the Nazi Army overran the remainder of unoccupied Czechoslovakia. Mr. Winton and his volunteers continued their dangerous work for another 6 months,

until the full outbreak of World War II on September 1st.

During this time, Mr. Winton and his volunteers saved 669 children. These were children who escaped the Holocaust and who later had their own lives and families, thanks to the efforts of this one man.

Mr. Speaker, tragically, a final group of 250 children scheduled to leave on September 3 was prevented from doing so. None of them lived to see the end of World War II.

It is by coincidence that we even learned about the heroic efforts of now 97-year-old Mr. Nicholas Winton, who never sought any recognition for his actions. Even his wife was unaware of what he had done until she found an old leather briefcase in an attic that contained documents pertaining to the rescue operations.

Mr. Speaker, the world has now begun to pay tribute to the brave acts of this modest hero, a true man, in my opinion. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II and made a member of the British Empire. He received the honor of the Freedom of the City of Prague and was made a member of the order named for the father of Czechoslovakia.

It is appropriate, Mr. Speaker, for this House to recognize the courageous efforts of this one man, Sir Nicholas Winton, during one of history's darkest moments.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased, Mr. Speaker, to take this opportunity to rise in support of House Resolution 583 recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton, who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II.

Sir Nicholas Winton, like many of life's heroes, sought no publicity for his efforts, which ultimately saved those young lives. In fact, for more than 50 years Winton's heroism went unrecognized until his wife, Greta, stumbled across a leather briefcase in their attic in which she found documentation of the children smuggled out of Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia and letters written by their parents.

Though less well known, Sir Nicholas' story has much in common with Oskar Schindler's, which has been celebrated in both print and film.

In 1938, Nicholas, a British subject, traveled to Prague, where he was haunted by the impression of refugee camps which were newly constructed there. This experience motivated him to tirelessly lobby the British Government in attempts to secure visas for Czechoslovakian Jewish refugee children.

Winton's efforts enabled the safe escape to Britain of almost 700 kids who surely would have perished without his intervention. Sir Nicholas' mission was

even more challenging, as it required that he first find a foster family to accept each child before they would be accepted into the country.

It is staggering to consider today that there are over 5,000 descendants of "Winton children" around the world, including the UK, Canada, Czech Republic and the United States, lives that would have perished without Sir Nicholas' selfless dedication to a remarkable humanitarian mission.

Nearly 100 years old today, Sir Nicholas Winton has been honored with the title Member of the British Empire and with knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II.

I encourage my colleagues to support this and I thank Mr. KLEIN for his authorship of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I yield all the time that he needs to the author of this important resolution, my good friend and also a senior member of our committee, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KLEIN).

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlemen for the presentation and the support of the resolution, House Resolution 583. I would also like to thank Chairman LANTOS, who has a deep and abiding understanding of the circumstances leading up to and what occurred during the Holocaust, and of course Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN and my cosponsor, Congressman LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART from Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true hero, Mr. Nicholas Winton, who saved more than 600 children from their death during the Holocaust. Nine months before the outbreak of World War II, Nicholas Winton, then only 29 years old, a young man, used his business and personal connections, urgently working from the dining room of a hotel room, and found safety for these hundreds of children.

Nicholas Winton took the lead in raising the necessary funds to assure transportation for these children. As was said already, he found foster homes and arranged for the necessary permits and documents. But let's understand this is not just an administrative function that we would think of today to place children. This was under threat of death of himself, his family and anybody who assisted. He saved these children's lives, since most of their families and contemporaries remained in Czechoslovakia, and they soon perished.

These children grew up to be doctors, nurses, teachers, musicians, artists, writers, pilots, ministers, scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and even a member of the British Parliament. Today they and their children and grandchildren and great grandchildren number over 5,000 human beings, living in the United States, Canada, Australia, the Czech Republic, Britain, Germany and elsewhere.

Nicholas Winton, as was already indicated, was given a knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II for his services to humanity. Sir Nicholas never sought credit for saving the lives of these children. In fact, his achievement went unrecognized for more than half a century, and until 1988 his family never knew about it.

For 50 years they were called "Winton's children," as the survivors called themselves, and did not know who to even thank or to whom they owed their lives. The story only emerged when his wife came across a satchel in the attic and found lists of children and letters from their parents.

In 1939, as he scrambled to save hundreds of lives, Nicholas Winton wrote in a letter: "There is a difference between passive goodness and active goodness, which is, in my opinion, the giving of one's time and energy in the alleviation of pain and suffering. It entails going out, finding and helping those in suffering and danger and not merely in leading an exemplary life in a purely passive way of doing no wrong."

The life of Sir Nicholas is certainly an example of active goodness. Just as we will never forget the horrors and deaths of the Holocaust, we must also never forget the examples of bravery and heroism that still serve as our role models today.

On a personal note, as with many people in this country, much of my grandparents' family was killed in the Holocaust. I think many of us in this country understand and recognize the importance of a man who stood up as bravely as he did, and there were many others who did the same and risked their lives in doing this.

I thank the members of Congress today. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to honor the life and accomplishments of Sir Nicholas Winton, a hero to many and a model for all.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Florida for his most eloquent statement. Maybe some day these 5,000 children of Mr. Winton might have a reunion somewhere in the United States to express a real sense of appreciation to this gentleman.

I recall, Mr. Speaker, the statement by the late Martin Luther King, Jr., who said that in the end we will not remember the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends. Here is one gentleman that was not silent about human rights and what he did for some 669 children whose descendants now enjoy the benefits of what he did some 60 years ago.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 583, recognizing the remarkable example of Sir Nicholas Winton, who organized the rescue of 669 Jewish Czechoslovakian children from Nazi death camps prior to the outbreak of World War II. I would like to thank my colleague, Congressman RON KLEIN, for introducing this important legislation, as well as the lead Republican cosponsor, Congressman LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART.

Mr. Speaker, today we recognize one of the great unsung heroes of World War II; a man who stood up against extraordinary evil to defend innocent children. Sir Nicholas Winton is an individual of profound moral decency and personal courage, who, in the midst of the immense darkness of World War II, offered hope that the perpetrators of horrendous atrocities would not prevail.

In 1938, Nicholas Winton, a 29-year-old clerk at the London Stock Exchange, visited Prague and was immediately concerned by the refugee situation. His frequent business trips to Germany had given him first-hand knowledge of the virulent anti-Semitism codified by the 1935 Nuremberg Race laws, manifesting itself in ever-increasing attacks, harassment, and arrest of Jewish people in Germany. The 1938 Munich Agreement, which gave Hitler control over the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia and was hailed by British Prime Minister as a "peace for our time," did not ease Winton's fears, and he came to recognize that Germany could not be appeased.

When Winton visited Prague, he found refugee camps, full of freezing Jewish families who had fled the Sudetenland. In particular, he was alarmed that nothing was being done to help the many innocent children, trapped in the gathering storm of war. Before returning to London, he set up a system of Kindertransport, where the names of children were collected and paired with foster homes in Britain and Sweden. When families could not pay to transport their children beyond the reaches of the Nazis, Winton raised money to fund transportation and other fees.

On March 14, 1939, only a day before the Nazi army occupied all of Czechoslovakia, the first 20 children left Prague. Over the next six months, a total of 669 children were sent via 8 trains to London, where families waited to shelter them. These children were spared the horror of the concentration camps by the courageous efforts of one man. Vera Gissing, one of the many children who, thanks to Winton's work, survived the war, later wrote, "He rescued the greater part of the Jewish children of my generation in Czechoslovakia. Very few of us met our parents again: they perished in concentration camps. Had we not been spirited away, we would have been murdered alongside them."

A 9th train was scheduled to leave on September 3, 1939, with 250 children onboard. Tragically, Great Britain entered the war that very day, and the train was prevented from leaving Prague, and it later disappeared. None of the children on board was ever heard from again, and none survived the war. In all, 15,000 Czech children were killed in the Holocaust.

Nicholas Winton is a reluctant hero, who never bragged about his courageous work. He never sought recognition for his actions, and we only learned about his efforts by coincidence. His good deeds did not end with the war's conclusion, and he was awarded a Member of the Order of the British Empire title in 1983 for his charitable work with the elderly. He was further recognized by the City of Prague and the nation of Czechoslovakia.

Sir Nicholas Winton epitomizes the greatness of the human spirit. He stood against the forces of darkness and helped the powerless during one of history's blackest hours, and then never sought recognition for his extraordinary accomplishments. Six hundred and

sixty-nine children were saved from suffering the horrific fate that befell so many of their friends and family members due to his daring, creativity, and compassion. I am grateful for the opportunity to pay tribute to this extraordinary man, and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MICHAUD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 583.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### COMMENDING GERMANY IN PREVENTING A LARGE-SCALE TERRORIST ATTACK

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 639) commending the actions of the Government of Germany and its cooperation with United States intelligence agencies in preventing a large-scale terrorist attack against locations in Germany, including sites frequented by Americans, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

##### H. RES. 639

Whereas on September 4, 2007, German police arrested three individuals for planning large-scale terrorist attacks against locations in Germany, including sites frequented by Americans;

Whereas possible targets included Ramstein Air Base, which serves as headquarters for United States Air Forces in Europe and is also a North Atlantic Treaty Organization installation, and Frankfurt Airport, the third largest airport in Europe;

Whereas according to German authorities, the three suspects belonged to a German cell of Islamic Jihad Union, a radical Sunni group based in Central Asia with links to Al Qaeda;

Whereas 300 police and other law enforcement officials were involved in the investigation and 41 homes across Germany were raided in a highly well-planned operation;

Whereas German and United States authorities worked closely together in the investigation;

Whereas United States intelligence agencies reportedly provided critical information that alerted their German counterparts as to the travels of the suspects between Germany and Pakistan and the suspects' affiliation with the Islamic Jihad Union;

Whereas German authorities acted swiftly and decisively to prevent a horrific attack that could have come within days of the arrests;

Whereas the successful collaborative action by United States and German authorities prevented the possible deaths of many innocent people;

Whereas Germany and the United States have been close allies in the fight against terrorism;

Whereas the law enforcement, intelligence, diplomatic, and military organizations in

Germany and the United States continue to work together to combat the terrorist threat and prevent future attacks;

Whereas acts of terror have profoundly affected citizens of many different countries across the globe; and

Whereas victory in the fight against terrorism is critical to preserve the liberty and ensure the safety of all people: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the efforts of German law enforcement authorities in preventing a large-scale terrorist attack on numerous targets in Germany, including sites frequented by Americans;

(2) recognizes the role of United States intelligence agencies in providing critical information to German authorities in their investigation and apprehension of the suspected terrorists and notes the continuing importance of such United States intelligence efforts with Germany;

(3) commends the intelligence community of Germany for its outstanding work in identifying the individuals suspected of seeking to carry out this terrorist plot;

(4) condemns those individuals who would use acts of violence against innocent civilians to spread a message of hate and intolerance;

(5) urges the allies of the United States to remain steadfast in their efforts to defeat international terrorism; and

(6) expresses its readiness to provide any necessary assistance to the Government of Germany in its counterterrorism efforts and to bring to justice those individuals involved in this terrorist plot.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

##### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this proposed resolution and yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the leadership of our Foreign Affairs Committee, the distinguished gentleman, the chairman of our committee, Mr. LANTOS, and our senior ranking member, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN of Florida, for their leadership and their support of this bill.

I also want to congratulate my good friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY), for introducing this important resolution that highlights ongoing efforts to keep our country and allies safe.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN for her help in bringing this resolution to the floor so promptly.

On September 4th, German police arrested three individuals who were sus-

pected of planning a large-scale terrorist attack against several locations in Germany. These included sites frequented by Americans, such as Ramstein Air Force Base and Frankfurt Airport. Had these plotters successfully carried out their planned assault on such populous facilities, the levels of death and destruction would have been too terrible to imagine, let alone American lives that would have been compromised.

Mr. Speaker, thankfully, the world was spared yet another day of horror caused by the heartless acts of terrorists bent on causing large-scale loss and chaos. I strongly commend the Republic of Germany and their intelligence community for its skillful monitoring activities, as well as its swift and decisive action in preventing an appalling act of violence and destruction by terrorists.

Mr. Speaker, I praise the excellent work of our own intelligence community, which, as I understand it, played a pivotal role in foiling their terror plot by providing essential information to the German authorities. This successful collaboration between German and U.S. intelligence communities underscores the continued importance of cooperative measures across the Atlantic to ensure the safety of American lives both here and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, as part of the broader fight against terrorism, there are many nameless individuals whose deeds might not be readily apparent to the public. However, their tireless efforts and personal sacrifice are crucial to preserving the safety of our Nation. I am thinking in particular of our intelligence community as well as members of the United States diplomatic corps, members of our armed services, whom I wish to thank publicly today for their continued efforts to prevent future terrorist attacks.

The discovery of this plot highlights that the threat of terrorism remains real, that it is multifaceted, and that it permeates the neighborhoods of our closest allies. It is, therefore, important that we remain vigilant, yet collective, poised, yet humble, in our efforts to identify and expunge such threats to our national security.

Again, I want to thank my good friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. GALLEGLY), for his initiative in providing this resolution for Members for its passage. I urge my colleagues to approve this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank Mr. GALLEGLY for offering this resolution. I think it is a very timely and a very important one.

I rise in support of House Resolution 639, which commends the German Government for its cooperation with our American intelligence community in