

that can help us in winning the war on terror. While we have an obligation to treat captured combatants in a way that respects their human dignity, we are under no obligation to consider them U.S. citizens. It is dangerous to provide detainees with the same protections enjoyed by Americans. Furthermore, it is unwise to grant detainees the rights enshrined in the very Constitution they seek to destroy.

We must recognize that there is a difference between police powers and war powers. The capture, interrogation, and trial of terror suspects in Afghanistan and Iraq clearly fall into the latter category. FBI involvement in this process can only lead to captured combatants being held, tried, and imprisoned in U.S. civilian facilities, thereby making our prison system an enclave for al-Qaeda operatives.

One of the primary objectives of American operatives in the Middle East is to anticipate and prevent future attacks against U.S. soldiers and U.S. cities. Treating terror suspects as rank-and-file street criminals is a dangerous policy with grave implications for our domestic security and foreign interests.

President Obama has repeatedly stated that he would govern his administration with transparency. However the ranking member on the

House intelligence subcommittee learned of a serious FBI policy shift almost by accident.

In waging this war, the White House must be accountable to this body—the people's elected representatives. I thank the gentleman from Michigan for bringing this issue to the House's attention, and I join him in calling on the Department of Defense to disclose the timeline and justification for this policy shift.

REGARDING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S
ADDRESS TO THE MUSLIM AND
ARAB WORLDS FROM CAIRO,
EGYPT

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, President Obama made some very important points in his address last week in Cairo, Egypt. It is important that he spoke directly to the Muslim and Arab worlds and stated as fact that 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust. The President should be applauded for making

clear that threatening Israel is wrong and that anti-Semitism, which remains prevalent in the Arab media, is ignorant, hateful and wrong.

Unfortunately, the President's speech left an impression that Israel was founded in response to anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. While these reasons were necessary for the creation of an Israeli state, a Jewish bond to the land of Israel is deeply rooted in history.

Many in the Muslim and Arab worlds deny that a Jewish connection to the land of Israel and Jerusalem exists. For example, at the Camp David meetings conducted by President Clinton, Yasser Arafat denied that the Jewish Temple was located in Jerusalem. However, a Jewish connection to Jerusalem and to the land of Israel reaches far back into ancient history and precedes the Holocaust. This bond is not 60 years old; it is more than 3,000 years old, pre-dating Islam and even Christianity.

President Obama is to be congratulated for reaching out to the Muslim and Arab worlds. As we do so, it is imperative that we stand with Israel. Only then will we achieve peace and stability in this troubled region of the world.