

world over. The memory of the atrocities committed at Auschwitz and throughout Europe must steel our resolve to fight every form of intolerance and inhumanity.

The Holocaust proves many sad truths. One is that modernity is not an inoculation against genocide.

The pillars of modernity—science and technology—are powerful forces. Perverted for evil by the Nazis, but also sources of unlimited hope, opportunity and transformative change.

My father, who eventually came to the United States to study engineering, taught me about the power of technology to transform lives for the better.

Let us fight so that technology is deployed to spread knowledge, to educate, to ensure that people in all corners of the world know of death-camp victims, survivors, and liberators.

Let us fight so that technology is used to shine a light on oppression and intolerance, to illuminate persecution and dehumanization, to take oppression and mass murder out of the shadows.

We know that the Nazis sought to shut off from the rest of the world the unspeakable killing that went on here. We know that for the Nazis control of the flow of information was an imperative, an SS boot on the free flow of news.

Let us fight for freedom. For fundamental freedoms disregarded too often and tragically in the 20th century, fundamental freedoms that, as Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has urged, we must enshrine as core principles in the 21st century—freedom of expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want, freedom from fear, and freedom to connect.

The freedom of information is essential, while also no substitute for the power of actual places to teach and instruct. It is a moral imperative to preserve Auschwitz and other physical sites of remembrance, because they shock us into an understanding that ideas alone cannot.

As the survivors continue to leave us, places like this take on an even greater importance. Because places like Auschwitz aren't really mute. In their unspeaking way, they tell us of the unspeakable.

The former prisoners who first proposed a memorial and museum at Auschwitz-Birkenau knew this. This place, and others like it, stands as a refutation of those who insist the Holocaust never happened—a denial of the truth that is baseless, ignorant, and driven by hatred.

The great American writer Mark Twain said: "A lie travels halfway around the world before the truth puts its shoes on." Today's haters are using old and new tools to foster Holocaust denial and mass murder. Let us come together to counter those efforts. Let us work together to make sure the facts of the Holocaust and its lessons remain fresh for each new generation.

My daughter, Lilah, is five years old—the same age as my father when he and his parents made their escape from Nazi-occupied Belgium.

My son, Aaron, is three years old—the same age as his mom's father in Nazi-occupied Holland when his parents handed him over to be hidden by righteous non-Jewish heroes who risked their lives to save people they didn't know.

We preserve Auschwitz-Birkenau so that children all over the world like Lilah, Aaron, and their older brother Jake can visit and absorb the full dimensions of the unthinkable tragedy that occurred here.

Bella Rabinovitch is gone, but her spirit lives on in eight grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and 45 great-great-grandchildren, each a living legacy to the victory

over Nazi oppression. In Israel and throughout the world, Jews and other groups singled out by the Nazis for extermination survive and thrive.

Bella's spirit also lives on in those who liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau three years after her death; and in those here participating 65 years later in this multi-national, multi-generational recognition that the horrors she and so many others witnessed and suffered must never be permitted to recur.

We are humbled by the survivors. We honor the liberators. We mourn the victims.

In their name, we say: Yitgadal Vayitkadash Shme Raba.

In their name, we pledge to remember.

In their name, we pledge: Never Again.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,360,943,989,345.48.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,722,518,243,051.68 so far this Congress.

Last week, the Congressional Budget Office released their Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2010–2020. They estimate a deficit of \$1.3 trillion for fiscal year 2010. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 1044, a resolution commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, a Nazi concentration and extermination camp. Honoring the victims of the Holocaust, and expressing commitment to strengthen the fight against bigotry and intolerance are integral parts of this resolution. I would like to thank Representative LEANA ROS-LEHTINEN for introducing this piece of legislation.

Before Allied forces arrived in Poland to liberate Auschwitz, on January 27, 1945, approximately 6 million Jews and other targeted groups were murdered by Nazi soldiers across Europe.

Auschwitz was the largest concentration camp in Poland. Between 1940 and 1945, 1.3 million Jews were deported by Nazi authorities to this extermination camp. Over 85 percent of the people sent there were tortured, starved and then systematically murdered in gas chambers.

This camp symbolizes a place of terror, for Jews, prisoners of war, people who were caught hiding the Jews and even those who

had different political views from the Nazi Regime during the Holocaust.

America stands with the Jewish people, and has dedicated the Holocaust Memorial Museum, to recognize the people who lost their lives, as well as those who survived the Holocaust. Their strong resilience against the Nazi's inexorable plan of genocide and their dedication to their ideals in spite of great adversity was remarkable.

The Department of State Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, along with several United States embassies and consulates has done an exceptional job at tracking anti-Semitism, bigotry, racism and intolerance. America and our partnering departments stand together with the Jewish people in solidarity to ensure the safety of all people and prevent our future from mirroring the atrocities of our past.

I urge my colleagues to continue their strong support of H. Res. 1044, commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland.

COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1044, Commemorating 65th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz.

January 27, 2010 marked the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, where at least 1.1 million were murdered from 1940–1945. Last week, the United Nations, which is located in my district, commemorated the liberation with events designed to carry on the stories and lessons that Holocaust survivors have made their legacy.

Here in Congress, the resolution we pass today honors the victims of Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration camps. It also reaffirms Congress's commitment to enhance Holocaust education to ensure that what happened in Auschwitz is never allowed to happen again.

To that end, I have introduced separate legislation, the Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Assistance Act (H.R. 2089), which would provide federal grants to educational organizations to teach students about the Holocaust: The legislation is named after the renowned survivor of the Nazi death camps who dedicated his life to documenting the crimes of the Holocaust.

Unfortunately, many students across the country have not learned about the Holocaust because their schools do not have the necessary funds or tools to teach them about this horrific event in humanity's history. It is imperative that students learn about the consequences of intolerance and hatred, so that we can truly say, "Never again."

As the numbers of Holocaust survivors dwindle, we must make sure their stories live on forever and that those who would deny the Holocaust never have the ability to rewrite history.