

Americans were sent to disarm an evil regime that has stockpiled weapons of mass destruction that threaten the peace and security of the free world.

26,000 liters of anthrax. 38,000 liters of botulinum toxin. 500 tons of sarin, mustard gas, and VX nerve agents; enough chemical and biological weapons to kill millions of innocent people in a single act of terrorism.

I agree with President Bush, the risk of doing nothing is far greater than the risk of doing something.

Americans were also sent to Iraq to end a regime of terror. A regime that has used chemical weapons on its own population, a regime that has made rape and torture an instrument of public policy.

Just ask 68-year-old mother, Zahra Khafi, recently liberated by American forces, whose 28-year-old son was summarily executed two years ago by Saddam Hussein's regime for merely practicing his religion, a branch of Islam out of official favor. She greeted our troops saying, "peace be upon you, peace be upon you."

"Should I be afraid?" she said, wiping her eyes. "Is Saddam coming back?"

Ask All Khemy, who said after the 1st Marine Expeditionary Unit liberated his village, "Americans very good . . . Iraq wants to be free."

President Ronald Reagan once said "no weapon in the arsenals of the world is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women." The minions of tyranny and evil are learning that lesson today.

Our nation has met much greater challenges and we have faced darker days. During the Civil War when brother fought brother, President Abraham Lincoln solemnly stated, "I have often been driven to my knees with the overwhelming conviction I had no where else to go."

I believe now is a good time for all Americans to be driven to our knees and pray for a speedy victory . . . pray for our men and women in uniform, and pray for a peaceful world no longer threatened with weapons of mass destruction.

Our cause is just. Our victory is inevitable. Freedom will prevail. But we must all must unite behind our troops today.

CONCERNING TREATMENT OF
MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES
HELD AS PRISONER OF WAR BY
IRAQI AUTHORITIES

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, March 8th, citizens of the Santa Clarita Valley gathered at a busy intersection to show their support for our American troops and for President Bush. Over a period of several hours, hundreds of people of all ages participated. Carrying signs and waving flags, they elicited a steady chorus of honking and cheering from passing motorists.

Barbara Barrick, Elizabeth Makous, Stacy and Brad Meyer, Denise Grimes and Betty Lanning planned this wonderful display of patriotism with assistance from the Santa Clarita

Congress of Republicans, the Republican Women Federated, the Young Republicans and the Lincoln Club.

Judy Belty, a young soldier's mother, was so touched by the demonstration that she wrote the following letter to the editor of our local paper, *The Signal*. I share it with my colleagues in hopes they will find it as inspiring as I did.

EDITOR: As I was driving home today I saw about 100 people dressed in red, white and blue, waving flags, holding up signs and cheering in support of our president and troops. Most of the cars passed by honking their horns in support of the waving display. I wanted to stop right there, get out of my car and hug the first person I ran into. I wanted to say "thank you" for being a voice for my boy.

I am the mom of an Army 82nd Airborne medic soldier and my heart has been heavy with the rhetoric that has been voiced in the name of "peace." I think I can safely say that none of us wants war, not even President Bush. But it is no secret that our country's freedom has always had a cost.

Since 9-11, I have been asked often if I think we should go to war. I think most expect me to say no, because I am a soldier's mom. Well, as a mom, I don't want my son or any other young person to have to experience what may be ahead. As an American, I want to keep my right to speak my opinion, to practice my Christian faith, to display my country's flag, to make choices for my life that are usually politically incorrect," and even to write this letter. I want to be able to ride up an elevator and believe I am safe, to board a plane and reach my destination. More importantly, I want this freedom for our children.

I drove by the supporting display about three times, and each time I was stirred with emotion. I wished my son could see the support for what he is doing. When I hear others speak against the war, I wonder if they really remember the human lives stationed all over the world for them?

The military is not paradise. It's not all fun and games. My son has been to the Middle East and will probably be returning again within a few months. I have so much compassion in my heart for the moms of sons who were in combat, for the spouses of soldiers, and the children.

Do I want war? No, but I want peace and freedom. Do I want my son to go to war? Of course not, but I am extremely proud of him and his fellow comrades for valuing my life over their own.

So to those of you that stood out there, thank you. Thank you for helping people remember that regardless of whether you agree with war, there are real men and women, our troops, in need of our love, our support, our words of encouragement. Thank you and please, God in heaven, bless America.

HONORING PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 27, 2003

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of a great American, Phyllis Schlafly. Mrs. Schlafly was named one of the 100 most important women of the 20th century by the *Ladies' Home Journal*, and has been a national leader of the conservative movement since the publication of her bestselling 1964 book, *A Choice Not An Echo*.

Mrs. Schlafly has been a leader of the pro-family movement since 1972, when she started her national volunteer organization now called Eagle Forum. In a ten-year battle, she led the profamily movement to victory over the principal legislative goal of the radical feminists, called the Equal Rights Amendment. An articulate and successful opponent of the radical feminist movement, she appears in debate on college campuses more frequently than any other conservative.

Mrs. Schlafly's monthly newsletter called *The Phyllis Schlafly Report* is now in its 36th year. Her syndicated column appears in 100 newspapers, her radio commentaries are heard daily on 460 stations, and her radio talk show on education called "Phyllis Schlafly Live" is heard weekly on 45 stations. Both can be heard on the internet.

In addition, she is the author or editor of 21 books on subjects as varied as family (*The Power of the Positive Woman*) and feminism (*Feminist Fantasies*), nuclear strategy (*Strike From Space and Kissinger on the Couch*), education (*Child Abuse in the Classroom*), and child care (*Who Will Rock the Cradle?*). Her recent book, *Turbo Reader*, is a system to enable every parent to teach his child to read.

Mrs. Schlafly is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Washington University, received her J.D. from Washington University Law School, and received her Master's in Political Science from Harvard University. She is a lawyer who served on the Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution appointed by President Reagan, has testified before more than 50 Congressional and State Legislative committees on constitutional, national defense, and family issues.

The mother of six children and an Illinois Mother of the Year, Mrs. Schlafly is America's best-known advocate of the dignity and honor that we as a society owe to the role of fulltime homemaker.

Phyllis Schlafly was honored in 2002 by Focus on the Family as the Mother of the Profamily Movement, and in 2003) she was the honoree at dinners hosted by the Council for National Policy and the Conservative Political Action Committee. She has since 1972 traveled at least annually to Alabama to debate and speak eloquently on issues that affect the family.

The Alabama Policy Institute, Christian Coalition of Alabama, and the Southeast Law Institute have joined the Eagle Forum of Alabama to honor Mrs. Schlafly and express their admiration, appreciation, and affirmation of her exemplary service to God, family and country. As President Ronald Reagan said: "Our nation needs the kind of volunteer service you and Eagle Forum have demonstrated . . ." And as American Conservative Union Chairman David Keene said in a statement this year about Mrs. Schlafly: "If there are giants among us, you are certainly one. The movement of which we are all part would never have achieved the successes it has without you . . . you had the courage to be 'conservative before it was cool'. . . the fact that so many young people are attracted to our banner today is a tribute to your work."

I stand with these groups and individuals to honor Phyllis Schlafly for her service to our country and culture, and her commitment to conservative family values.