Mr. Speaker, on this very somber anniversary, we

remember the lives of 2,977 innocent men, women, and children who were

killed 12 years ago today.

The horrific and brutal attacks that we witnessed the morning of

September 11, 2001, forever changed our country and the world. But even

during these difficult hours, we also saw inspiring examples of the

very best that America has to offer.

We saw first responders who worked day and night searching for

survivors at the World Trade Center. We saw thousands of men and women

in uniform bravely answer the call to serve our Nation in a new kind of

war--a war against terrorism. And we saw Americans all across this

great Nation come together united in the certainty that we would

recover from this tragedy, hold the perpetrators accountable, and do

everything we could to protect our Nation.

As we face a new set of challenges today, let us recall the inspiring

examples that we saw 12 years ago and remember that we are all

Americans united by a shared set of values and ideals. But most of all,

let us honor the lives that were lost and continue to pray for the

comfort and peace of all those who still mourn today.