Mr. Speaker, I was in this very building on 9/11. I

was here when Members of Congress engaged in a meeting, and obviously

not paying attention to the crisis around us until the instruction was

given to flee. As we came out of offices and meeting rooms, we saw

those who were fleeing and those who were trying to protect leadership,

and others of us who were told to flee and hit the ground.

But in actuality, what we began to think of is our loved ones in our

district. We thought of America. And then after the fact, we thought of

the brave souls that actually were saving lives in the Pentagon as we

saw the billowing smoke. We heard the rumors of the White House, the

State Department. We thought of those whom we had originally seen in

New York. And, as well, we thought of those very, very heroic souls in

Pennsylvania.

Having gone to Ground Zero in the early stages when they were still

in the recovery stage, I saw first responders still going, still

pushing to be able to recognize and to find souls for their loved ones.

So today, I hope that we will honor those who lost their lives from

terrorist acts. And, Mr. Speaker, if I might say that we adhere to

Isaiah 40:31, no matter what our faith:

I hope America's future is in peace for those lost souls that we

lost.