Madam Speaker, about a week or so ago, a good

friend of mine from Indiana, Rex Early, who has been very active in not

only political circles but in civic events for a long, long time,

brought to my attention some extraordinary things that have been done

by a young man who is in our military.

Corporal Sean Leahy graduated from Hamilton Southeastern High School

in 2006 in Fishers, Indiana, and he is now a 23-year-old marine and

squad leader with the 1st Platoon, Kilo Company. He recently completed

his second tour of duty, initially having served with distinction in

Iraq.

Sean was preparing to leave the Marine Corps to pursue a college

degree; and when made aware that his unit would be sent to Afghanistan,

instead of leaving to pursue college, he again decided to answer the

call, and he reenlisted instead of going to college. He didn't have to

risk his life again, but he wanted to be with his unit, and he promptly

joined his brethren in preparation for their next deployment.

He was deployed to Sangin in the Helmand province of Afghanistan, an

area where our troops have sustained heavy losses and heavy wounds in

recent months. But Leahy and his good friend Matthew Bland served side

by side with honor, guiding and protecting their platoon.

When called into duty, Corporal Leahy answered the call to action

without any hesitation. And I think that's really amazing for a 23-

year-old fellow who has a great college career ahead of him to pass

that up to go back with his unit into a combat situation. When he was

presented with the opportunity to pursue a calmer life here in the

States after completing his tour in Iraq, he instead chose to stand

shoulder to shoulder with his fellow Marines.

Madam Speaker, this kind of bravery and love for one's country is too

often neglected, overshadowed by our chaotic news cycle and conjecture

regarding the latest Hollywood gossip. The heroic actions of people

like Corporal Leahy can often go unnoticed. But today I rise to give a

heartfelt thank you to Corporal Leahy and to the many men and women

like him in our armed services who have chosen to risk everything day

after day to ensure our country's safety in the face of terror.

The words I have just spoken don't express enough the sentiment that

most of us in America feel toward the people who are defending our

freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege of rising in honor of one

of our fine fighting men who has recently returned from a tour in

Afghanistan.

Cpl. Sean Leahy, who graduated from Hamilton Southeastern High School

in 2006 in Fishers, Indiana, is a 23-year-old Marine and squad leader

with the 1st Platoon, Kilo Company. He has recently completed his

second tour of duty, initially having served with distinction in Iraq.

Sean was preparing to leave the Marine Corps to pursue a college

degree, when he was made aware that his unit would be sent to

Afghanistan. Instead of leaving to pursue college, he again decided to

answer the call, reenlisted, and promptly joined his brethren in

preparation for their next deployment.

He was deployed to Sangin in the Helmand province of Afghanistan, an

area where our troops have sustained heavy losses in recent months. But

Leahy, and his good friend Matthew Bland, served side-by-side with

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Cpl. Leahy answered the call to action without hesitation.

When he was presented with the opportunity to pursue a calmer life

here in the States after completing his tour in Iraq, he instead chose

to stand shoulder to shoulder with with his fellow Marines. Mr.

Speaker, this kind of bravery and love for one's country is too often

neglected, overshadowed by our chaotic news cycle and conjecture

regarding the latest Hollywood gossip.

The heroic actions of people like Cpl. Leahy can often go unnoticed.

But today, I rise to give a heartfelt thank you to Corporal Leahy and

the many men and women like him in our Armed Services who have chosen

to risk everything, day after day, to ensure our country's safety in

the face of terror.

I would now like to proceed with the rest of my Special Order.

There was an article, Madam Speaker, in a number of our papers around

the country after Osama bin Laden was killed. These articles kind of

troubled me, not because we haven't been aggressive in going after

Osama bin Laden for 10 years but because of the message these articles

sent possibly to the terrorist leaders around the world. It indicated

that the President wanted to reach out to the Muslim radicals now that

Osama bin Laden has been killed, as if to say, ``Let's solve this

problem and not have any further conflict.''

Now, that kind of rhetoric may sound good to many people in this

country, but it troubles me because it may give the impression that

we're trying to appease the terrorists in order to get them to stop

their terrible, terrible terrorist activities around the world.

I would like to put into the Record a few things that were said prior

to World War II that I would like, if the President were paying

attention, to listen to, because there's an old saying, ``Those who

don't profit from history are destined to make the same mistakes.''

The first quote is from Lord Chamberlain, who was the Prime Minister

of England prior to World War II:

``This morning, I had another talk with the German Chancellor, Herr

Hitler, and here is the paper which bears his name upon it as well as

mine. We regard the agreement signed last night, and the Anglo-German

Naval Agreement, as symbolic of the desire of our two peoples never to

go to war with one another again.''

That was a speech that he made at Heston Airport on the 30th of

September, 1938. It was part of the ``Peace for Our Time'' approach

that Lord Chamberlain was taking.

He said, later on in a letter that he sent to his wife in December of

1939:

``I stick to the view I have always held that Hitler missed the bus

in September 1938. He could have dealt France and ourselves a terrible,

perhaps a mortal, blow then. The opportunity will not recur.''

He was trying to say that the reason he signed that agreement with

Hitler was because they weren't prepared for war and so he decided to

give the Sudetenland to Hitler without any kind of a conflict. The

thing that bothers me about that is what he said to the Czechoslovakian

people:

``When we were convinced, as we became convinced, that nothing any

longer would keep the Sudetenland within the Czechoslovakian State, we

urged the Czech Government as strongly as we could to agree to the

cession of territory, and to agree promptly. The Czech Government,''

because of the pressure that was brought upon them, ``through the

wisdom and courage of President Benes, accepted the advice of the

French Government and ourselves. It was a hard decision for anyone who

loved his country to take, but to accuse us of having by that advice

betrayed the Czechoslovakian State is simply preposterous.''

But, in fact, it was a terrible decision that was made by Lord

Chamberlain, because what happened was, because of the appearance of

weakness by going to Munich and signing a peace agreement on Hitler's

terms, giving the Sudetenland, which was part of the Czechoslovakian

Republic, to Hitler, it was the green light, because he suspected and

felt that the free countries of the world were afraid of him and would

back down in any case that might arise. As a result, World War II

started and 50 to 60 million people were killed.

It is very important that we realize today, as they did after Lord

Chamberlain made this terrible mistake, that we should not in any way

give the appearance of appeasing the radical Islamists, because they

may think because we got rid of Osama bin Laden, we don't have the

intestinal fortitude to keep after them to destroy them so that they

can never be a threat to the free world again.

I think it's important that we remember what Winston Churchill, who

was an outcast in the British Parliament at the time, what he said for

years and years and years. Quoting Churchill:

``The era of procrastination, of half-measures, of soothing and

baffling expedients, of delays, is coming to its close. In its place we

are entering a period of consequences.''

He was predicting that World War II was going to start, and this was

as far back as 1936.

He went on to say later on:

``People say we ought not to allow ourselves to be drawn into a

theoretical antagonism between Nazism and democracy; but the antagonism

is here now. It is this very conflict of spiritual and moral ideas''--

that's what we're facing right now, spiritual and moral ideas of the

radicals--``which gives the free countries a great part of their

strength.''

Winston Churchill, who was vilified, was absolutely correct. They

should have prepared for war. They should have let Herr Hitler know

that there was going to be no giving of any quarter to him, and it

might have prevented World War II and maybe saved 40, 50, 60 million

lives.

Winston Churchill went on to say after the war was about to begin in

the House of Commons in 1938:

``Britain and France had to choose between war and dishonor. They

chose dishonor, and now they will have war.'' And they did have war.

Churchill also said:

``And do not suppose that this is the end. This is only the beginning

of the reckoning.''

I hope our government realizes that this is not the end of the war

with the terrorists. This is still going on. Although bin Laden has

been killed, there's still a lot of terrorists out there that believe

we're weak and that we're not going to follow through and that they can

prevail in the long run. We need to send a message like Churchill did

prior to what Lord Chamberlain did by going to Munich that we're going

to be tough and we're going to follow through. I think the President

needs to send that message very loud and clear, instead of reaching

out, now that bin Laden is gone, and saying to the terrorist world,

``Now that bin Laden's gone, your leader's gone, we ought to sit down

and work this thing out.'' That is a sign of weakness. And I hope the

President when he makes this speech makes absolutely clear to the

terrorists that we're willing to do whatever it takes to protect

America and the free world.

As Churchill went on to say, ``This is only the beginning of the

reckoning. This is only the first sip, the first foretaste of a bitter

cup which will be proffered to us year by year unless by a supreme

recovery of moral health and martial vigor, we arise again and take our

stand for freedom as in the olden time.'' That was in October of 1938.

We're in a war against terrorism. It's something that hasn't been

seen since the 12th century when the radical Islamists tried to take

over western Europe. A lot of people don't remember that. But they did.

And there's always those radicals who want to foist upon the rest of

the world their religious beliefs and the way they think the world

should be run. We have to when they rise up again and again and again

as they will throughout history, I'm sure that there will always be

radical Islamists who will want to make sure the rest of the world

believes the way they do as far as their religious beliefs are

concerned. Whether it's now, or whether it was in the 12th century, or

whether it's going to be in the future, the free world has to be

resolute of purpose and make absolutely sure that the message is sent

loud and clear that we are willing to do whatever it takes to defeat

the terrorists. That means doing whatever it takes to get information

from their leaders to make sure that we find the terrorists in whatever

hole they've dug themselves in to protect themselves.

I'm very happy we got Osama bin Laden. I think it's a great step

forward in the quest for peace. But the war is not over. It's going to

go on for some time, until the terrorists know that there's no

possibility of winning, and the threat to our homeland from terrorism,

the threat to the free world from terrorism, goes on.

I would like to end, if I could, to say to the President--I know I

can't talk to him because he's not here--but if I were talking to the

President, I would say: Mr. President, when you make this speech,

allegedly to reach out to the Arab world, make it absolutely clear that

we're going to do whatever it takes to defeat the terrorists as long as

it takes.

With that, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.