

We should also be providing tax relief and help to struggling families and veterans; increase homeland security funding; and reject the President's cuts to our first responders.

A budget that invests in America's future will succeed only with broad support in Congress. I encourage my distinguished colleagues to support this proposed budget to rebuild America's future.

FISA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this latest attempt to undermine our personal liberties and violate the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. This bill will allow the federal government to engage in the bulk collection of American citizens' communications. In effect, it means that any American may have his electronic communications monitored without a search warrant.

As such, the bill clearly violates the Fourth Amendment, which states:

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

The assurances in this bill that Americans will not have their communications monitored without warrant are unconvincing. The bill merely states that the government should do its best to avoid monitoring Americans if possible. We have seen how meaningless such qualified prohibitions have been as we recount the abuses over the past several years.

Just today, we read in the news that the federal government has massively abused its ability to monitor us by improperly targeting Americans through the use of "national security letters." Apparently some 60 percent of the more than 50,000 national security letters targeted Americans, rather than foreign terrorists, for surveillance.

This is what happens when we begin down the slippery slope of giving up our constitutional rights for the promise of more security. When we come to accept that the government can spy on us without a court order we have come to accept tyranny.

I urge my colleagues to reject this and all legislation that allows Americans to be spied on without a properly issued warrant.

HONORING ZACHARY ANTHONY LAYTON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zachary Anthony Layton of Platte City, Missouri. Zachary is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by tak-

ing an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zachary has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Zachary has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zachary Anthony Layton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF PRISCILLA RAKESTRAW, 24TH TRAILBLAZER AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Ms. Priscilla Rakestraw, who is the recipient of The Agenda for Delaware Women's 24th Trailblazer Award. Priscilla was selected for this award because of her pioneer roles in formulating corporate policy, community service, politics, and Government.

During her career in human resources at the DuPont Company, Priscilla was instrumental in developing substance abuse and sexual harassment programs for DuPont. These programs gained recognition nationwide, eventually resulting in their adoption at DuPont locations throughout the United States. Due to Priscilla's foresight and persistence, DuPont was able to provide assistance aimed at eradicating harmful behaviors in the workplace.

After leaving DuPont, Priscilla continued to use her skills and passion as a leader to advance causes for organizations she feels strongly about. She is active in raising funds for various community, church, and charitable organizations. As development director for Wilmington College, Priscilla played a vital part in raising funds to expand the university by acquiring new college sites. As development director for the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition, she has raised funds for a new, more conveniently located facility. She has served on a number of boards, including Goodwill, the Ministry of Caring, the East Side Charter School, and the annual auction for the Emmanuel Dining Room, where she raised over \$500,000 to provide food to those in need.

An advocate for women in politics and Government, Priscilla has long encouraged women to pursue positions in politics, she herself having extensive experience in the political arena. Priscilla has held leadership positions in more than 120 campaigns, both at the national and State levels. She is presently the longest serving member of the Republican National Committee, having held the position of Delaware's Republican National Committee-woman since the age of 27. She will attend the National Convention this year, as usual, and is a member of the Arrangements Committee and chair of the Convention's Entertainment Committee.

I want to publicly thank, recognize and acknowledge Priscilla Rakestraw for her many

years of service and numerous contributions to the State of Delaware. She is an excellent role model for those who aspire to serve their community through both public office and private service. She is a true trailblazer in every respect.

HONORING MARGARET TRUMAN DANIELS AND HER LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Truman Daniels, the daughter of a great American President and a popular mystery novelist whose source of grace and inimitable talent was no mystery. Her strong-willed parents, President Harry S. Truman and his wife Bess, instilled in her a depth of character and a penchant for independence that remained with her a lifetime. She was their beloved only child who made a name for herself in the entertainment business—staking a claim in the worlds of music, television, radio, and books, and even establishing her own brand of critically-acclaimed Washington-based mystery novels.

She was a longtime New York resident, and we are proud to have called her one of our own. The breadth of her talent and the legacy she sought to preserve set her apart, and that is what we celebrate today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Springfield, Missouri, Police Department as this year it celebrates 150 years of distinguished service to a grateful community.

In truth, the department actually traces its origins as far back as 1829, when Campbell township, which would later become Springfield, was laid out and initially settled. Twenty years later, the community's first constable was appointed by a population consisting of a small group of families living on the outer edges of the wilderness. Law and order, of sorts, having been established, the population of Springfield grew rapidly as more families sought new challenges and opportunities in the beauty of the Ozarks.

To keep up with a growing settlement, Springfield formally created a small police force in 1858—consisting of a marshal and two junior officers. Thus began in earnest what would later be recognized as one of the most effective and efficient community law enforcement agencies in the country.

By the end of the 19th century, the chief of the Springfield Police Department was collecting a stout salary of \$50 a month, and officers were making a whole lot less. And if the pay didn't scare them away, the department's

standard uniform sometimes did: blue serge uniforms with English-style police helmets—attire strikingly similar to British “Bobbies.” Officers walked a beat 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. It would be 50 years and the passage of new Federal work laws before officers saw a 5-day work week, and another extended period of time before Springfield voters would approve the first pension plan for police officers and firemen.

The first telephone arrived at the Springfield headquarters in 1898, and 2 years later a transport vehicle, dubbed the “Black Maria” and the “Hoodlum Wagon,” was put into use. The first automobile, a Studebaker, didn’t roll into the station until 1910—but all beats would be covered by foot patrol into the 1960s.

Under the leadership of Lieutenant Sam Robards, the Springfield Police entered a new era in 1940 by establishing an integrated police academy, creating a gun range, upgrading its weapons cache, and making mandatory a program of in-service training. The new gadgets of the 20th century that changed everyday life in America also enhanced the abilities and effectiveness of the police department.

Nearly 100 years after the first patrol car went into service, modern patrol vehicles today are enclosed, climate controlled, and equipped with laptop computers, cellular telephones, and radios that provide instant contact between officers and commanders. As one would expect, this technology has had a real and immediate impact.

Last year, the Springfield Police Department responded to more than 100,000 calls for service and investigated more than 15,000 reported crimes. Just to give you some perspective, traffic enforcement didn’t begin as an obligation of law enforcement until after World War I—with one Springfield officer, on foot, directing horseless carriages at the corner of Jefferson Avenue and St. Louis Street. The modern day Springfield Police force worked 9,000 traffic accidents last year and issued more than 53,000 traffic citations.

Today, officers use small, highly sophisticated surveillance equipment to both prevent crimes and prosecute criminals. Cutting-edge science in forensic laboratories is now an essential part of crime solving. Officers of 1858 would marvel at the sophistication of the 21st century law enforcement technologies being employed every day by the Springfield P.D.

Other new scientific advances prompted the creation of the Bureau of Identification, which started taking fingerprints and photographs of all suspects in 1925. In the latter part of the century, the six-shooter was replaced by 9mm semiautomatic handguns; automatic weapons and bulletproof vests were added and a tactical weapons squad became permanent additions to the force. Mace, batons, and riot helmets were issued for the first time in the 1960s. To respond to the rising tide of illegal drugs, the Springfield Police Department created a narcotics unit in the 1970s.

Other innovations in law enforcement were realized in 1959, when the department first formed the Police Dog Unit, P.D.U., with three officers and three dogs. The unit was disbanded in 1979, only to be reestablished in 1994. Women became part of the Springfield Police Department in 1914 when Margaret Hull was enlisted as the first commissioned policewoman, charged with handling female prisoners. Sixty-two years later, the first female officer was sworn in to work as a patrol

officer with her male counterparts. Black officers began their service on the police force starting in 1874 and have continued to serve their community with bravery and honor ever since.

The Springfield Police Department began housing prisoners in 1874, welcoming their clients in a 15x30 foot wooden building with a dirt floor. The jail was located immediately west of the downtown business district, and is the site of the present day Calaboose, home of the department’s Police Museum and Park Central Substation. At the turn of the 20th century, it wasn’t unusual to see intoxicated partygoers hauled to jail in a wheelbarrow. Tough to get a DUI on three wheels, after all. But after nearly 130 years in the jail business, the Springfield Police Department transferred all incarceration responsibilities to the Greene County jail complex.

The department headquarters have moved several times over the past century and a half—each time in response to a growing population and the demand for more police services. From near Park Central Square and West College Street in the late 1800s and finally into two modern stations on East Chestnut Expressway near city hall and on Battlefield Road, police headquarters are designed to be high security, limited-access facilities to accommodate the logistical needs of a growing police force—and an ever-growing community.

In 2003, the Committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police announced the Springfield Police Department was a finalist in a worldwide competition recognizing outstanding community policing initiatives—a first for any police force in the State of Missouri. That same year, the Springfield Police Department was granted full accreditation status by a national commission for the third consecutive year.

As much as things have changed over 150 years, some things have not. Just as in 1858, officers put their lives on the line for their friends, families, and neighbors each and every day. And just as in the past, the community of Springfield thanks those officers for their service, and forever honors the heroes that have fallen in the line of duty.

Though not long, the list of officers killed while on the job reminds us every day of the solemn commitment others have made—and continue to make—to safeguard our security. Starting with Campbell Township Constable Jacob Baughman in 1871, nine Springfield officers have made the ultimate sacrifice. Four officers were killed in the 20th century’s single deadliest law enforcement shoot-out on record—referred to by most as “The Young Massacre.” Also killed in that epic 1932 battle with the Young brothers was the Greene County sheriff, as well as his deputy.

Today, our police officers serve as our first line of defense against a new and evolving threat—terrorism. The world is a much more dangerous place today than it was in 1829, and there are those—both homegrown and foreign—who would like nothing more than to visit harm upon the American people. It will be local police who likely detect and face that threat first.

For all they have done over the last 150 years—and continue to do to this very day—I want to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to the Springfield Police Department, and congratulate it on reaching this historic

milestone. I also want to urge my fellow citizens not to forget to thank each officer they see for the important work they do each and every day.

HONORING RONALD THOMAS CUNNINGHAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ronald Thomas Cunningham of Blue Springs, Missouri. Ronald is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1763, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ronald has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ronald has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ronald Thomas Cunningham for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

ASSESSING THE 2008 OUTLOOK FOR THE CARIBBEAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the challenges the Caribbean faces in this coming year by introducing the editorial, “Looking to 2008 for Improved Economic and Social Conditions,” published in the New York CARIB News on January 8. The article posits that the area will have to rely on the economic gains of the last few years, as it faces rising inflation and an economy that will prove to be less robust. It hails the Caribbean Single Market and Economy as vital and argues that efforts to strengthen it should help the region stave off the grim economic picture. It notes that the impact of rising crime, particularly homicides, merits acknowledgement and solutions, perhaps by tackling those social conditions—a pervasive drug trade, the flurry of guns, and poverty—that are fueling that rise.

As steadfast allies of the Caribbean, we friends of the Caribbean in this House should stay abreast of all developments out of the region, with a ready hand, an open heart, and an attentive ear.

LOOKING TO 2008 FOR IMPROVED ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, CARIBBEAN REGION EXPECTS TO CONSOLIDATE GAINS OF RECENT YEARS

The World Bank has warned of a slowdown in economic growth in the Caribbean while the United Nations considers it the Year of the Potato at a time when food prices throughout the region, indeed, the world have gone through the roof.

By the middle of the first month of the year, Barbadians would have selected a political party to run the country for the next