

**House Report 107-298 - DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2002 AND SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATIONS, 2002**

**ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF HON. JAMES T. WALSH, HON.
NITA LOWEY, HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY, AND HON.
JOSE E. SERRANO**

The bipartisan New York Congressional Appropriations delegation strongly opposes the Committee's failure to include additional contingent emergency spending for the critical recovery efforts in New York City. The Committee's actions directly contradict the language of the 2001 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States (P.L. 107-38). P.L. 107-38 explicitly states:

That not less than one-half of the \$40,000,000,000 shall be for disaster recovery activities and assistance related to the terrorist acts in New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001

We expect that the Congress and the Bush Administration will keep its commitment to provide \$20 billion for these activities out of the funding available in P.L. 107-38. We understand the pressing needs for national security and homeland defense created by the September 11 attacks, which is why we drafted our amendment as a contingent emergency to give the President money in the bank to spend when needed. We believe this is the best way to deal with the extraordinary expenses--detailed below--arising from the attack on New York. We appreciate the President's willingness to ask for more funding when he believes it is necessary. With Congress heading into a long recess, we believe it would be better to have this authority in hand immediately.

Nearly 5,000 people are dead or still missing as a result of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. New York City, New York State, and the entire metropolitan region have lost billions in property and economic damages. In the days following September 11, Governor George Pataki and Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, with input from business, industry, and labor, developed a comprehensive list of the most immediate needs and highest priorities for the promised \$20 billion in relief. This list was developed in full consultation with all interested parties and was endorsed by the entire 31-member New York Congressional delegation.

In the first days following the attack, 25,000 New York residents were displaced from their homes; today, more than two months after the attack, 5,000 people are still unable to go home. The attack completely destroyed more than 16 million square feet of hotel and office space, while doing

damage to millions more, resulting in the dislocation of 838 major companies. In addition, 15,000 small businesses were destroyed, disabled, or significantly disrupted. As a direct result of the attacks, New York lost more than 108,500 jobs. This figure does not include the thousands more than have been lost in the City, State, and metropolitan region during the last two months as the effects of the attacks rippled through the economy. The New York City Partnership and Chamber of Commerce estimate that New York will lose \$83 billion in economic activity this year.

The City and State both sustained huge losses, not only through the destruction of critical infrastructure, but also through the estimated loss of \$12 billion in revenue over the next 18 months. In addition, the City lost \$1.4 billion in destroyed or damaged police, fire, and sanitation equipment. The World Trade Center sat on top of a major transit hub, and subway and commuter rail stations were destroyed when the towers collapsed. As a result, the subway system in lower Manhattan has lost 42 percent of its capacity. It will cost at least \$3 billion to remediate and repair these facilities. The West Side Highway and other roads surrounding the World Trade Center were severely damaged, and the estimated cost of repairs is at least \$250 million.

The Borough of Manhattan Community College, part of the City University of New York, sustained nearly \$300 million in damages to buildings and equipment at its campus when Seven World Trade Center collapsed. New York City public school students lost thousands of hours of classroom time that will need to be made up before the end of the year, costing the Board of Education at least \$100 million.

Public utilities in and around Ground Zero also suffered major losses. Electrical power to lower Manhattan was disrupted by the complete destruction of two electricity substations located in the World Trade Center complex. In addition, five transmission feeders and associated equipment supplying the substations were severely damaged. The 24-inch steam distribution main (approximately 1,500 feet of steam piping) that ran beneath the WTC complex and approximately 500 feet of steam main adjacent to the WTC is presumed destroyed pending access and excavation of the site. Finally, 11,000 feet of natural gas distribution lines in and around the WTC complex were damaged or destroyed.

Telecommunications systems were also severely damaged when numerous switches that route telephone calls were damaged or destroyed. Several hundred cables transporting telephone service from those switches to customers in the surrounding neighborhoods were crushed and/or water damaged. Two million circuits were severely damaged at the New York Stock Exchange. By working 24 hours a day for almost a week, Verizon reconstructed the telephone lines in order to get the New York Stock Exchange up and running by September 17.

The most popular public radio station in New York, WNYC-FM, and the nation's largest public television station, Thirteen/WNET-TV, sustained at least \$15 million in damages. WNYC's FM transmitter and antenna, as well as its backup FM transmitter were destroyed in the collapse of the North Tower. Thirteen/WNET-TV was knocked off the air for five days and lost an engineer, who was working at the transmitters site atop Tower One. With the collapse of the World Trade Center buildings, Thirteen lost both its analog transmitters, a new digital transmitter, switching equipment and other hardware.

New York metropolitan area hospitals responded generously to the attacks, sending medicine, supplies, equipment, and staff down to the site. Some of this equipment was lost when the Towers collapsed. Combined with tremendous overtime costs, the hospitals sustained at least \$140 million in direct operating losses.

These losses are real, and only scratch the surface of what is likely to be needed in the coming months and years. We appreciate the funding provided in division B of the bill, but strongly disagree with the Committee's reasons for voting down our amendment for an additional \$9.7 billion to support the recovery efforts in New York.

James T. Walsh.

Maurice D. Hinchey.

Jose E. Serrano.

Nita Lowey.

ADDITIONAL VIEWS OF HON. CHET EDWARDS

While I voted for the Committee's mark of the FY02 Department of Defense Appropriations Act, I was very disappointed that the Committee did not include an increase in funding for nonproliferation programs within the \$20 billion supplemental appropriation that was attached.

I find it irresponsible and dangerous that even in light of the September 11th terrorist attacks, this House has said, in effect by our votes, that it is less important to fund programs that protect Americans from the threat of nuclear terrorists than it was a year ago. Earlier this year, the Department of Energy Appropriations bill included a smaller budget than last year's for nuclear nonproliferation programs with Russia. These programs provide for increases in security for loosely guarded Russian nuclear materials that could fall into the wrong hands. At the time, I was assured that the supplemental appropriations bill would be the appropriate place to increase this budget, as it would include programs funded to respond to the attacks of September 11th. Unfortunately, this bill did not include those funds, and the only amendment offered during Committee consideration of the bill that would have increased our efforts in this area was struck down 34-31.

The President has made it clear that he believes this is a threat. On November 13, he stated: 'Our highest priority is to keep terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction * * * We agreed that it is urgent that we improve the physical protection and accounting of nuclear materials and prevent illicit nuclear trafficking.' Earlier this year, a review led by former Senator Howard Baker and former White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler declared: 'The national security benefits to U.S. citizens from securing and/or neutralizing * * * nuclear weapons and potential nuclear weapons could constitute the highest return on investment in any current U.S. national security and defense program.'

Let me review five facts that are not in dispute:

1. If the September 11th terrorists had used a nuclear bomb, with a soda can sized lump of plutonium, and placed it in lower Manhattan, millions of people would have died.
2. There are over 600 metric tons, enough for 41,000 nuclear devices, of weapons-usable material in Russia today that is in urgent need of additional security improvements, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.
3. We know of 14 separate seizures of highly enriched uranium that had been stolen from Russian nuclear sites since 1992. In eight of those cases, the uranium was seized outside of Russia, in Germany, the Czech Republic, and Bulgaria.
4. We know that since 1993 Osama bin Laden's Al Qaeda organization has made attempts to obtain nuclear material from Russia. In fact, when Northern Alliance forces drove Taliban forces out of Kabul, they found schematics and other background materials describing how to build a crude nuclear bomb.
5. Because of an agreement signed in September between the United States and Russia, we have a window of opportunity to put in place anti-terrorist safeguards at numerous Russian nuclear sites. No one knows when that window of opportunity will close.

Based on those known facts and the devastating potential of nuclear terrorist attacks, Congress should act immediately to work with Russia in providing adequate safeguards at their numerous nuclear sites.

I know that every Member of this House would do almost anything to prevent a nuclear terrorist attack on the United States. Sadly, though, our spending decisions are not consistent with that commitment.

I will vote for this bill because of the good that it does, and because I know that the Chairman will continue to look for an opportunity to fund these critical programs. I believe we have a moral obligation to the American

people to do everything possible to prevent terrorists from using nuclear weapons against American families.

CHET EDWARDS.

