

Joint Resolution No. 7

(House Joint Resolution No. 4)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Remembering the U.S.S. Cole

FOR the purpose of recognizing and memorializing the loss of the American Navy personnel on the U.S.S. Cole including Maryland crew members who gave their lives as a result of the terrorist attack on the U.S.S. Cole.

WHEREAS, On October 12, 2000, the DDG 67 U.S.S. Cole was moored to a harbor refueling island during a stop in the port of Aden, Yemen; and

WHEREAS, At approximately 5:15 a.m. eastern daylight savings time, an attack was executed on the U.S.S. Cole by a small boat containing explosives that pulled alongside the missile destroyer; and

WHEREAS, In the aftermath of the explosion, the crew members of the U.S.S. Cole acted with tremendous foresight, courage, and determination, and prompted Army General William Crouch to remark that, "the actions of the commanding officer and crew, following the attack, saved the ship and several of their shipmates"; and

WHEREAS, The explosion killed 17 ship personnel, injured 39, and caused extensive damage to the U.S.S. Cole, ripping at least a 40 by 40 foot hole into the armored hull of the ship; and

WHEREAS, Three of the 17 Navy personnel killed were citizens of Maryland:

~~Joshua Parlett, age 10, Engineman Fireman, from Churchville, who had just joined the Navy after graduating from high school;~~

~~Patrick Roy, age 10, Fireman Apprentice, from Keedysville, a lacrosse athlete, wrestling enthusiast, and school actor who was described by a family friend as a "nice kid who wanted to serve his country"; and~~

~~Craig Wibberley, age 10, Seaman, from Williamsport, who raised and lowered the destroyer's small anchor and was described by the family minister as "a good all American boy"; and~~

Joshua Langdon Parlett, age 19, Engineman Fireman, from Churchville, who had joined the Navy following graduation from Harford Christian School, was known by his shipmates as a hardworking problem solver, and was a young man who had found direction in his life through service to God and country;

Patrick Howard Roy, age 19, Fireman Apprentice, from Keedysville, captain of the Storm King School lacrosse team, and outdoor enthusiast, who was drawn to the Navy by his love of sailing, and who lived his life simply and without pretense; and

Craig Bryan Wibberley, age 19, Seaman Apprentice, from Williamsport, soccer and saxophone player, with keen computer abilities, who enjoyed the travel and exploration the Navy experience offered; and