

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus (R-AL) spoke on the floor of the House late yesterday in support of President Bush's resolution authorizing the use of military force to topple the regime of Saddam Hussein. His remarks appear below:

Mr. Speaker:

This morning at 9:08 each member of this body received an e-mail message, an alert and it asked all of us to take precautionary measures. It told us all to restrict our activities at home and in our offices. We were asked to share it with each member of our staff. That e-mail dealt with a killer, a killer we know murdered 5 people in Montgomery County, Maryland and we know is expanding his range.

The question has been asked this entire weekend: what motivates this person? Why is he doing what he's doing? And last night if you listened to the news stories, there was an answer given. A profile gave his motive, his weapon. It showed the geographic area he was operating in, but what caught my attention was his motive. They said he's not a serial killer, because a serial killer selects a certain type of victim. They said, no, he is motivated by something else. He enjoys killing. It is sport. He must kill again. He's what we call a thrill killer, and in that regard he shares something with another thrill killer, a thrill killer we know as Saddam Hussein. A thrill killer not equipped with simply a high powered weapon, but one addicted to weapons of mass destruction. You've heard the litany of weapons at his disposal. You've also heard he started off killing in his own village, in his own family, then in his close circle of friends, his cabinet, his political party, his political opponents. Then villages and town in his own country. Then Iran, then Kuwait, then in the Gulf War the first two victims of this thrill killer were two majors in the Alabama National Guard who served at the same base I did in Birmingham.

What is the response to a thrill killer, when we learn his identity, who started his rampage in Maryland? Will we react with resolutions? We will try to establish a dialogue? Will we restrict him to home? Will we give notification that we would like to inspect his home from time to time? Will we simply rage about the violence and talk about how we are a good people and he should not do these things?

Thank goodness that when we find him it will not be the United Nations that goes after him. It will be the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department, and we won't have to build a consensus

all over the United States among every sheriff's department and every group as to what to do to him.

Ladies and gentlemen, I close with the words of George Washington, one of our greatest presidents, when he said how do you respond at a moment like this? He said, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effective ways of preserving the peace." What this Congress needs to do is to give our president what he needs to prepare our nation for war, and in doing so, we will preserve the peace and ensure peace for our children and grandchildren.