

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 8, 1997

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GOSS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

KOREAN AIR FLIGHT 801 TRAGEDY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Guam [Mr. UNDERWOOD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, while the rest of the Nation has turned its attention to other matters, we on Guam are still reeling from the aftermath of the worst air disaster in our island's modern history.

On August 6, 1997, at approximately 1:42 a.m. Guam time, a Korean Air Boeing 747 enroute from Seoul to Guam crashed into a hill 3 miles short of the runway at the airport. The jumbo jet carried 254 people, 228 of whom have perished. The last victim of flight 801 was Mr. Chung Yong-hak, who died on September 3 while being treated at Brooks Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX.

I rise today to express the people of Guam's condolences to the family and friends of the crash victims. We shared their pain most intimately, not only because it was on our soil but also because the people on that plane were not

entirely strangers. Nationalities and citizenship aside, there were mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, aunts and uncles, friends and neighbors who were coming home or looking forward to a visit.

Guam is a small community and a significant number of our population were touched by the loss of someone known to them in some way. Among the dead, eight were returning Guam residents of Korean descent. And among the survivors, there were four returning home.

Last December I had the pleasure of sitting with Mr. Kenneth Kim of Tamuning as his daughter, Yuri Kim, was being sworn in as an officer of the American Foreign Service. Yuri's first assignment is at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. She traveled to Guam, first to await word and then to mourn the death of her mother, Jane, who was among the passengers of that ill-fated flight.

Mrs. Jane Wha-Young Kim was active in community service affairs and served as president of the Guam Korean Women's Association. She was laid to rest on August 18, 1997, and is survived by Kenneth, Yuri, and her son, Yong Sae. The Kim family will carry on and I, along with their friends, will offer solace as best as I can.

The Dahilig family has also been severely affected by this tragic event. Mr. Mike Dahilig of the village of Dededo, his sons, Richard and Michael, his father-in-law Young Min Kim and his many brothers and sisters are making preparations to inter Mike's wife Jung-Ok and their 1-year-old son Mitchell.

I want to express to them again and to all the families of Korea Air Flight 801 our deepest condolences. Whether to respond to the ravages of typhoons or earthquakes, the people of Guam have always pulled together as a community and worked cooperatively to attend to one another's needs.

In the early hours of August 6, our abilities were challenged to the maximum, but I stand proudly today to say that civilian and military personnel and volunteers from all sectors of our community joined forces, not merely as a consequence of training and function but in the spirit of kindness and compassion.

By 6 a.m. on the morning of the crash, more than 500 civilian and military rescue personnel were on the site, which is in plain view from the roadside on Nimitz Hill but inaccessible by motorized vehicles. Rescue personnel, carrying what equipment they could manage, clambered down a steep ravine and up the other side. Desperately trying to reach survivors, they trekked for a mile and a half through mud and swordgrass.

To reach the crash site, bulldozers widened a narrow utility road leading to a navigational beacon just yards from the crash site. Additionally, cranes were utilized to lift debris and wreckage so that victims and survivors

could be reached. None of the first rescue personnel ever gave up hope of saving lives. As if unsatisfied with the toll on human life, the crash of Korean Air Flight 801 also claimed the life of an Air Force volunteer who suffered a heart attack while assisting at the crash site.

Mr. Speaker, America can be proud of its men in uniform, men and women in uniform, who were stationed on Guam. The Navy, on whose property the crash occurred, the Air Force, the Coast Guard, the Guam National Guard, and the U.S. Army all responded quickly, professionally, and compassionately.

The U.S. Army delegation was composed of airline crash investigators from the Army Central Identification Lab in Hawaii who just happened to be on Guam to examine a World War II B-29 crash site.

Men and women from nearly every department and agency of the Government of Guam rallied to meet the crisis, either as professionals or volunteers. The Guam Fire Department, the Guam Police Department, Guam Airport Authority, Office of Civil Defense, Departments of Mental and Public Health, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Labor, Corrections, Youth Affairs and the Energy Office, the Governor's office, all allocated equipment, supplies, and personnel to meet the rescue and treatment efforts.

Guam's business community also offered their full support. From Continental Airlines to small businesses like a McCrory Store, Little Future, Boonie Dog Designs, numerous establishments offered their time and energy. Churches of every religious denomination, nonprofit, civic organizations, and educational institutions lent their support.

As a result, the Guam Chapter of the American Red Cross was able to deliver more than 9,000 meals to crash site workers and offer nearly 2,000 grief support encounters in the 7 days following the crash. No one likes to point out that this is an opportunity to see the community work together, but the people of Guam certainly could be proud of their effort.

Mr. Speaker, I include the following for the RECORD:

AUGUST 11, 1997.

His Excellency KIM YOUNG SAM,
President, Republic of Korea, Presidential Palace, Seoul, Korea.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, The courage, strength and stamina of Asian-Pacific people in times of adversity are legendary. Sadly, we know that the great people of the Republic of Korea must again call upon these inherent qualities to bear the terrible tragedy of the loss of Flight 801. In this, we, the people of the Territory of Guam, join you in pain and sorrow, and offer this message of hope: we have unflinching confidence in the legacy of the Korean people to triumph over adversity. Together, we shall attend to the painful and difficult tasks at hand; together, we shall endure this tragedy; and together, we shall grow stronger in respect and friendship.

On behalf of all the people of Guam, we send our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to you, the families and friends of all