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No. 84

House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. HUTCHINSON].

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 10, 1996.

I hereby designate the Honorable Y. TIM HUTCHINSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of May 12, 1995, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority and minority leader limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12, rule I, the House will stand in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 33 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. COBLE] at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

With all the discordant voices that are heard in our world and with all the usual pressures from every side, we long for meaning and purpose in our lives and in the lives of those we love. We question at times our own ability to see any design or scheme that would give cohesion to what we do. Yet, in every moment, O God, we can see Your path of faith and hope and love and we can acknowledge those gifts of thanksgiving and gratitude that give meaning in our very hearts and souls. With every word of praise, we celebrate Your gifts to us, O gracious God, and renew Your presence in word and deed. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill of the following title, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1634. An act to amend the resolution establishing the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission to extend the service of certain members.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,

Washington, DC, May 24, 1996.

Re Burton v. Allard.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House that the Office of Finance has been served with a subpoena issued by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and precedents of the House.

Sincerely,

SCOT M. FAULKNER.

KING KAMEHAMEHA DAY IN HAWAII

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I have just returned from my district, and in doing so I always have to go through the State of Hawaii. Today, the State of Hawaii is celebrating Kamehameha Day, they call it every year, in honor of the great King of Hawaii, Kamehameha.

I want to share with my colleagues some very interesting tributes to this great Polynesian Hawaiian king, whose statue is right here in Statuary Hall

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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as it was a gift from the State of Hawaii commemorating this great island ruler.

Kamehameha had to prove not only his kingship by birth, but he also had to prove his kingship by merit. His rivals were just as big as he. I do not know if my colleagues realize, Mr. Speaker, but the statute that we see here of King Kamehameha is supposed to be life size. This great King of Hawaii was almost 7 feet in stature, weighed almost 300 pounds, and can my colleagues just imagine that his rivals were just as big as he, and having a fleet of some 16,000 canoes, and the population of the Hawaiian community at that time was some 300,000 native Hawaiians that lived during his time.

Prophesies were made before Kamehameha was even born that he would be truly a king of chiefs, and that is why his name is aptly called, The Lonely One, and I ask my colleagues to go see the statue of King Kamehameha in Statuary Hall.

ANOTHER BURNING REEFER

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, if a Republican President had been responsible for this latest abuse of power and invasion of privacy, we would never hear the end of it, but I predict the left-wing media will try to sweep this incident under the rug. It seems the Clinton administration requested and received highly confidential FBI records of 338 former Reagan and Bush appointees. The White House calls it a bureaucratic mistake. Mr. Speaker, this creation of an enemies list demands a full investigation. I know White House officials say that in spite of ordering these files and keeping them at the White House rather than returning them to the FBI—they did not even look at them. That's like saying they smoked marijuana, but didn't inhale. Mr. Speaker, the American public deserves better, no more excuses and coverup.

PROTECT AND PRESERVE MEDICARE

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. speaker, Medicare is going broke. The latest trustee's report confirms what many of us have been saying for some time now: that Medicare is going broke even faster than predicted.

The Medicare trust fund lost money last year for the first time since 1972 causing the trustees to declare that the Medicare trust fund would be completely bankrupt by the year 2001. That is just 5 years away. As this chart shows based on Congressional Budget Office numbers, it was predicted to go bankrupt in the year 2001.

I refuse to allow Medicare to go bankrupt because of some political advantage. We believe that we have got to work together in a bipartisan fashion, without gimmicks, without tax increases. We need to solve this problem for the American people.

I invite my Democrat colleagues to work together for the American people in saving Medicare. It is the right thing to do; it is the right thing to do for all Americans.

IT IS TIME FOR THE WHITE HOUSE TO COME CLEAN

(Mr. POMBO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, apparently the White House is at it again. This time they raided the confidential FBI files of Republican officials, including former Secretary of State James Baker.

Let me just read from the AP story about this incident:

But among the unanswered questions were, who at the White House knew the files has been gathered and why they were kept at the White House rather than returned to the FBI? The files, 341 of them, almost all of them former employees of Republican administrations, were stored in the White House security office's vault.

Mr. Speaker, I guess we can all breathe a little easier knowing that not every Republican was investigated. It was only 341 of them.

The White House assures us that this was only a small, innocent bureaucratic mistake. I believe that. I also believe in the Easter Bunny, and that the world is flat. Mr. Speaker, it is time for the White House to come clean.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken today after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 5 p.m. today.

REGARDING THE CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 848) to increase the amount authorized to be appropriated for assistance for highway relocation regarding the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park in Georgia, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 848

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. INCREASE IN AUTHORIZATION OF AP- PROPRIATIONS.

Section 1(c) of the Act entitled "An Act to authorize and direct the National Park Service to assist the State of Georgia in relocating a highway affecting the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park in Georgia", approved December 24, 1987 (101 Stat. 1442), is amended by striking "\$30,000,000" and inserting "\$51,000,000".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California [Mr. POMBO] and the gentleman from American Samoa [Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA] will each be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. POMBO].

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. POMBO asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 848, legislation to increase the authorization ceiling for construction of a by-pass road around Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park.

In 1890, Congress designated the Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park as the first national military park, in recognition of several important Civil War engagements which occurred there. Like many of the Civil War engagements, the site of this battle occurred along an important transportation corridor, in this case the route leading into Chattanooga, TN.

Mr. Speaker, there is still a high degree of conflict along that transportation corridor, U.S. Highway 27, but today the conflict is between commuter traffic using this road, and those persons who have come to the park to understand and appreciate the important events which took place there 133 years ago. In fact, 90 percent of the 17,200 vehicles using this road daily, including about 800 18-wheelers, are nonpark visitors. The heavy use of this road intrudes significantly on the historic scene, and makes it almost impossible for visitors of the park to use the road as part of the autotour route.

Several years ago, there was a proposal to expand the highway through the park to four lanes. Such a proposal would only have resulted in a greater number of vehicles going through the park. In 1987, Congress passed a law authorizing a bypass around the park in order to protect the park, and improve safety for nonpark traffic.

Unfortunately, due to the amount of rock encountered and fill required, the cost for this project has risen since the original 1987 estimate. Even with the Federal/State matching requirements, the estimated cost of the Federal Government for this road has risen to about \$52 million. However there is no question this funding authorization is needed to ensure the protection of this important park.