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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. ROGAN].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

September 4, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable JAMES E. ROGAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rabbi Sidney S. Guthman, Congregation Sholom, Long Beach, CA, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Author of Liberty, to Thee we pray: Let there be for bigotry no sanction, for intolerance no assistance. For Thy bountiful blessings upon this land, we are, indeed, grateful beyond words.

We now humbly implore Thee to continue to favor us with Thy divine guidance. Inspire our legislators to reaffirm the principles of the Founding Fathers, and to embody them in wise laws.

We beseech Thee, O Merciful Father, to bless our country. May it ever be strong but just, firm but wise, a shining example for all mankind to emulate. Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light.

May all nations become aware of their common unity and all the peoples of the world be united in the bonds of brotherhood and peace before Thee, the Father of all. May this be Thy will. And let us say 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.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5, rule I, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. THOMPSON 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.

WELCOME TO RABBI SIDNEY S. GUTHMAN

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

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I have known our guest chaplain today, Rabbi Sidney Guthman, since moving to Long Beach in 1970. During the time I was president of California State University, Long Beach, he was deeply in-

volved with the students as friend and as counselor. He is not only a spiritual leader in our region, he is also a popular community leader.

Rabbi Guthman has a long and distinguished record of service. At present he is serving as the president of the Interfaith Clergy Association of Long Beach, as well as chaplain of the Long Beach Police Department and chaplain of the Veterans' Administration Medical Center. He has served on the Long Beach Civil Service Commission by appointment of the mayor.

Rabbi Guthman is the respected conscience of our community. During any time of unrest or confusion, he is there writing articles for the newspapers, organizing forums for airing differences, and generally bringing people together.

This year Dr. Guthman celebrates the 60th year of his ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. It is an honor to have Rabbi Guthman serve as guest chaplain in the House of Representatives on this day. I thank Rabbi Guthman for his moving prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that he will entertain fifteen 1-minute speeches on each side.

IN MEMORY OF FORMER MISSISSIPPI REPRESENTATIVE FRANK SMITH

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

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, my colleague from the Second District of Mississippi and I have the sad duty this morning to report the death of one of our former House Members from Mississippi, Frank Ellis Smith, who served

□ 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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capably for 6 terms in the House of Representatives and died on August 2 in Jackson, MS, at the age of 79.

After fighting in the European Theater during World War II, Frank Smith returned to his hometown of Greenwood to become managing editor of the Greenwood Morning Star. Two years later in 1947 he was elected to the Mississippi Senate, and shortly afterward he came to Washington to serve on the staff of Senator John C. Stennis.

He was elected to Congress in 1950 and served until 1962. During that time he was a leader in efforts to bring economic development to the South, serving as president of the Lower Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association. From 1955 to 1962, he was a member of the North American Treaty Organization Parliamentary Committee.

In retirement, Representative Smith served as a visiting professor of public policy at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and was later special assistant to Mississippi Governor William Winter from 1980 to 1983. He was the only Mississippian ever to serve on the board of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Representative Smith was the author of six books and edited other publications. He operated a well-known bookstore in Jackson for many years. He is survived by his wife Helen, a son, a daughter, and 3 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, during his exemplary career Frank Smith made his mark on the Mississippi political scene as a legislator who took care of his constituents, voted his convictions, and worked to improve economic opportunities for his State and Nation.

PASSING OF FRANK ELLIS SMITH

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

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today. During the break, Frank Ellis Smith, one of my constituents, passed away. A former Member of this body, Frank Ellis Smith dedicated his life to economic development in my home State, the hospitality State, Mississippi.

Frank Smith fought valiantly in World War II, earning the Bronze Star for his heroic service record. His work with NATO has made the world a safer place and his efforts as an educator have filled the minds of young Americans with the knowledge necessary to realize full, rewarding lives. Mr. Smith was a great Mississippian and a loyal, dedicated American. He has left behind a legacy of achievements that have brought honor to every person proud enough to call themselves a Mississippian.

TERRORIST BOMBINGS IN JERUSALEM

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, on July 30, the world was shocked to learn that bombings carried out by two Arab suicide bombers in Jerusalem had killed 13 Israelis. Now this morning we are again horrified to learn that yet another terrorist attack in an outdoor mall in Jerusalem has claimed the lives of at least 5 people and injured hundreds more.

Since 1993, terrorism instigated by the Palestinian Authority has resulted in the deaths of over 230 Israelis and United States citizens. When does it stop?

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has continually fanned the flames of violence through inflammatory rhetoric and tacit approval of terrorism. Congress must make it clear to the Palestinian Authority that violence must end.

Before Congress adjourned for the August recess, we took a step in the right direction by adopting an amendment to the Foreign Operations appropriations bill that will suspend \$100 million in aid to the Palestinian Authority until the President can certify that the Palestinian Authority is meeting certain human rights conditions and fully implementing the Oslo peace accords.

Besides failing to suppress terrorism, the Palestinian Authority has failed to fulfill security agreements mandated by the Oslo accords by refusing to confiscate all illegal arms and refused repeated Israeli requests to extradite known Palestinian terrorists. We must strongly condemn today's action and work for peace in the Middle East.

EDUCATION STANDARDS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, students all over the country are going back to school this week. During the budget debate this summer, Democrats in Congress pushed an education agenda over the opposition of Republicans that provided significant help to college students to help finance their education. This included expanded Pell grants, education tax credits and deductions, including the \$1,500 HOPE scholarship.

During this fall, Democrats will focus on raising education standards across the country and on the need to rebuild crumbling and overcrowded schools. Republicans have already vowed to fight the President's plan to raise education standards, but Democrats understand that the Federal Government can help students master the basics of reading and math. Raising education standards should be a national goal.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN DISARRAY

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

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about America's future, her children. As an American and as a parent, I know that nothing is more important than our children. One of our children's most critical resources, however, is failing the children.

The educational system in America is in disarray. Test scores are low, dissatisfaction is high, and some children cannot even go to school without fearing for their lives. It is time to get our schools back on track. The way to do this is not to continue to pour Federal money into failing programs but to give control back to the people who know what is best for our children: The parents, the teachers and the community. In these capable hands, America's children can again receive the education they need and they deserve.

TIME TO CLOSE THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS

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

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in the next couple of hours, this House will have the opportunity of closing down the School of the Americas. This is one of the worst vestiges of this country's foreign policies over the course of the last couple of decades. While the cold war has ended, the association of this country in hundreds of villages throughout Latin America, in thousands of families where human rights abuses have taken place time and time again, those who perpetrated those human rights abuses have one thing in common. They were graduates of the School of the Americas.

This is a school that is funded by U.S. taxpayers. It has trained the Latin American militaries how to come to this country and learn to kill, torture, and maim more efficiently. It is a school that should never have been associated with U.S. taxpayer funds. It is a school whose time has not only come and gone, but whose time should never have been associated with this country.

It is time, I believe, for us to close down the School of the Americas. I ask Members on both sides of the aisle, save the taxpayers money. Close the School of the Americas.

EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

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

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, all of our efforts to improve education for America's children are aimed at, in the words of Gen. Colin Powell, allowing all the children in our country to share in the American dream. A good education is not necessary to obtain the American dream, but it is certainly your best bet on the road to achieving it.