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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. PEASE].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 30, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable EDWARD A. PEASE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rev. Everett W. Hannon, Jr., Pastor, the Second Baptist Church, Lexington, MO, offered the following prayer:

Most gracious Father, we come now in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who shed his blood on Calvary's cruel cross. We praise You for making us such a powerful nation in a short time, for we are one nation under God. We seek peace and justice for all nations.

As we gather together in these hallowed Chambers to make life-changing decisions, give us the spirit of servitude to serve our God and then the people of these United States of America.

God Almighty, You are the conductor and we are the orchestra. Please guide our decisions so that we may agree in pitch and tone making a song of victory for the entire world to behold.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). 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 Tennessee [Mr. DUNCAN] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DUNCAN 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 Ms. McDevitt, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed a bill and a concurrent resolution of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1150. An act to ensure that federally funded agricultural research, extension, and education address high-priority concerns with national or multistate significance, to reform, extend, and eliminate certain agricultural research programs, and for other purposes.

S. Con. Res. 37. Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that Little League Baseball Incorporated was established to support and develop Little League baseball worldwide and that its international character and activities should be recognized.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain ten 1-minute requests following the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. SKELTON].

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, the morning prayer was delivered by Rev. Everett Hannon, who is the minister of the Second Baptist Church in my hometown of Lexington, MO. Reverend Hannon is a native of Lexington and currently resides in nearby Warrensburg, MO, with his wife Carol and their two children, Andrea and LeAndrea.

Reverend Hannon is the eldest son of Marjorie and Everett Hannon, Sr. He received his theology degree from the Central Bible College in Kansas City, MO. He has been the pastor of the Second Baptist Church for 10 years, and he is well known for his excellent sermons and devotion to the members of his congregation. Reverend Hannon also provides civic leadership in the community.

In addition to his church duties, he serves as the moderator of the Central District Missionary Baptist Association and the auditor of the Missouri State Missionary Baptist Congress.

I am pleased that this outstanding Missouri minister could be with us today, and I know the Members of this body join me in thanking Reverend Hannon for his opening prayer.

SO-CALLED OBEY COMPROMISE

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

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, the President announced that he would develop a national test in 1997 without the approval of the Congress. Two hundred ninety-five Members of the Congress said, "No, you won't." The President signed a contract anyway. The President said, "I will also pilot and field test this national test in 1998, without the approval of the Congress." Two hundred ninety-five Members said, "No, you won't."

The so-called Obey compromise that we will hear about says, go, ahead, Mr. President, you can do both with the blessing of the Congress. Develop the test in 1997. Field test it and pilot in 1998.

What a slap in the face of the 295 Members of the House of Representatives. If we have \$100 million to spend, why would we spend it to tell 50 percent of our students one more time

□ 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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"You're not doing well"? They have been told that time and time again after every standardized test they have ever taken.

If this comes to the floor of the House in this manner, I would hope that all 295 would vote against the appropriation bill.

COMMITTEE HAS TRIED TO DRAFT HONEST COMPROMISE

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

Mr. OBEY. In response to the comments of the previous speaker, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING], Mr. Speaker, I would like to take note of two facts. I notice a fax from the Office of Congressman SHADEGG which says, "Urgent, Republican leadership is pushing the David Obey proposed compromise, which sells us out on testing." That is what I hear from one side. Then I hear from Mr. Ralm Emanuel at the White House that the White House intends to veto this bill "because DAVE OBEY has sold the White House out on testing."

I would suggest that if Mr. Clinton, or the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING] or Mr. Emanuel or the gentleman from Arizona [Mr. SHADEGG] or anyone else thinks that it is so easy to put together a compromise, they sit down and talk to each other. It seems to me that that is what we need, rather than having both sides cry "sell-out" because this committee has tried to draft an honest compromise.

I have great respect for the President, and I have great respect for the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING], but I would suggest that one of them is spectacularly wrong.

LETTER FROM JULIE GORLIK

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

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, first in response to my colleague from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY], we do not need a compromise, we need Washington out of our lives and we need Washington to leave education in the hands of the parents, the communities, and the school boards.

But that is not why I rose this morning. I rose because last night, as I was reading constituent mail, I got this letter from Julie Gorlik, who called our office. And here is what it says. It says that she is upset that there is assistance for unmarried, unwed mothers, for the lazy, for criminals, and for homosexuals, but there is never any help for married people who are doing their best to make ends meet and support a family and they cannot get any help from anyone. They are hard-working, honest, good people and they get discriminated against.

I rise this morning to invite Julie to tune in this evening when I will be tak-

ing the time to go through some of the things in the tax cut package that are specifically designed because we have heard this message from our constituents over and over and over again: \$500 per child for under the age of 17; the college tuition tax credit; the education savings credit to help parents save for their kids's education; the Roth IRA; and on and on we go. There will be more on this when I have 1 hour on the floor this evening.

VOUCHERS ARE FIRST STEP TO DISMANTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I have listened to the last two speeches by my Republican colleagues. I have to say I am truly amazed at the pace of the Republican leadership's antipublic education drive. The Republicans are determined this fall to make every effort to drain resources from public schools and funnel Federal dollars into private schools.

A few weeks ago the Republicans narrowly passed a bill to force vouchers on the D.C. schools. Today, amazingly, they will try to bring their voucher experiment into schools throughout the country, and they are paying for it with Federal dollars that should be used to improve the public schools.

Mr. Speaker, vouchers are just the first step in a Republican effort to dismantle the public schools. Since taking control of Congress, the Republican leadership has repeatedly tried to shut down the Education Department and slash funding for public schools.

Democrats want to improve the public schools rather than tear them down. We put forward an agenda for first-class public schools that included money for school construction, purchases for computers. Let's improve the public schools. Do not let the Republicans tear them down.

VOTE "NO" ON NUCLEAR WASTE POLICY ACT OF 1997

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, over the past several months, I have taken the same opportunity to speak to the Members of this House on numerous times regarding a very important issue to this great Nation. Today, Members of this honorable body will have the opportunity to send a clear message. By voting "no" on H.R. 1270, the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, my colleagues will send a clear message that they do not support transporting the world's deadliest material, high-level nuclear waste, through the neighborhoods of their homes or their districts.

A no vote will also send a strong message that we do support the environmental measures, such as clean air,

clean water, safe drinking water, and the National Environmental Protection Act. A no vote on H.R. 1270 will send a message that we do support States' rights.

Mr. Speaker, the facts are very clear. Transporting nuclear waste across this country will have devastating environmental consequences. Transporting nuclear waste across this country will cost the hard-working taxpayers of America billions of dollars. Let us rely on sound science, not bad politics. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "no" on 1270.

PRESIDENT JIANG SLEEPS IN LINCOLN BEDROOM

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

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, let us see if this makes sense. China helps Iran. Iran threatens Israel and all the Middle East. Iran is a known major terrorist threat to America. But Uncle Sam gives China \$60 billion a year in sweetheart trade deals.

Now, if that is not enough to massage your arthritis, after all this, President Jiang is literally sleeping in the Lincoln bedroom, being wined and dined, at taxpayers' expense, by the White House.

Beam me up. This madness has gone too far. When American foreign policy goes from honest aid to the butcher at Tiananmen Square, something is wrong, Congress, very wrong. Think about it. I yield back what national security we still have left.

WHITE HOUSE AGREES TO TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY TO COMMUNIST CHINA

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

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, to follow the comments of my colleague from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT], the revelations are as real as the headlines in today's Washington Times: "China Aided Iran Chemical Arms." And below that, a bolder headline: "Clinton-Jiang Reach Nuclear Accord."

Mr. Speaker, let me see if I have this straight. The White House agrees to a transfer of nuclear technology to the Communist Chinese in exchange for a written promise that the Chinese will not share that technology with Iran.

We are not talking neckties or notecardes or notebooks. We are not talking conventional trade here. We are talking nuclear technology. We are going to give that to Communist China? Monte Hall would not even make a deal like that on his old game show.

There must be a sweetener here, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the Chinese Government is not going to try to find Ya Lin Charlie Trie.