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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. SHIMKUS).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 17, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN M. SHIMKUS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. George Dillard, Peachtree City Christian Church, Peachtree City, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, Creator, the One who with a Word spoke all things into existence and who even now holds all things together by the power of Your might, we come humbly in Your presence today seeking grace and mercy to help in time of need. As we acknowledge You as the sovereign Lord of this Nation, we seek Your will in all the decisions that will be made in this place by these men and women who have given themselves to service of the people. We ask that You give each Member of this House a heart of wisdom. Create, O God, in us a heart committed to You.

Father, we thank You for the blessings of freedom and liberty, for we acknowledge these as Your gifts. It is our prayer that we do not use our freedom and liberty as a covering for evil, but as an opportunity to proclaim Your truths.

Father, our prayer is that the eyes of our hearts might be open so that we can see the evil that seeks to destroy, that we might be prepared to stand against the schemes of the evil one.

We pray for revival in our land, for a return to the truth, morals, and values from Your word that once governed our lives. We ask for the wisdom to trust in You and Your son, Jesus, as the source of our courage, power, and strength to lead us through this present darkness. Father, we do not know what our tomorrows hold, but we do know that You hold our tomorrows.

So then we ask that You bless this House, our President, and the other leaders of this great Nation, cleanse our hearts from every sin, teach us to walk in Your paths and to live in Your righteousness and justice. Bind our hearts together and our minds into one great Nation that honors and serves You. We give You all the glory, the honor, and the praise in the precious name of Your son and our saviour, Jesus Christ. 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. FOLEY. 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 Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

Mr. FOLEY. 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 8, rule XX, 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 Michigan (Mr. KNOLLENBERG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG 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.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. GEORGE DILLARD

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

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, it is a great pleasure today to introduce my friend, Dr. George Dillard of the Peachtree City Christian Church in Peachtree City, Georgia.

George Dillard and his wife, Renee, and his children have been friends of mine for many years. We met in 1992 when I was running for office and George helped me a lot, not just in terms of let us get out and get some votes, but as a candidate, you often go through peaks and valleys and many, many dark hours. And George helped me through those, gave me a lot of advice. He also was one of the first persons that I called when my Aunt Louie died because I wanted to ask him a few questions about her beliefs; and George was there to give me some very sage, Biblical advice.

George has been a friend through the period when the guards at the United States Capitol were shot and killed. He was a friend during the trials and tribulations regarding the impeachment debate. He has been a friend through Bosnia and Kosovo, and now Afghanistan. All the perils. He was among the first to call me after the tragedy of September 11 and said, what can I do to help? He has opened this

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House Chamber in the past with prayer before, and so it is good to have a familiar voice and a familiar face with us.

Now, George was pastor in Rincon, Georgia in the first district of Georgia when I was running in 1992, but having done great works there and converted so many souls, he realized he needed to go up to the third district of Georgia where the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) was elected. I think he felt like there must be a need, and so he is now a constituent of my great friend, the gentleman from the third district of Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

So I am going to yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS) and let him complete the introduction of Dr. George Dillard. To George, let me just say thank you.

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman. I appreciate the fact that Reverend George Dillard did move to the third district of Georgia. As we can tell by his opening prayer, he is a messenger of God's word; and he is also one who believes in returning the message to God based on the things that he sees and the things that are happening in this country and asking for the need and the help of God. I welcome him here today.

I think it is great that he opened the House this morning. His wife and children were here last year and as he was leaving home yesterday and he called in, his children answered and said, Where are you? He said, I am in Congressman COLLINS's office. They said, oh, that is Uncle Mac. Tell him we will be back to see him, and we want them to come. His family does great work in Peachtree City, Georgia. He will do great work wherever he goes because he is delivering the message of God.

Thank you, George Dillard, for being here this morning. Thank you, Chaplain, for inviting him to come up and participate here this morning.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RANDY HERMAN SCHENKMAN AND MARIETTA GLAZER

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, since September 11, every day we honor the firefighters, police, and rescue workers who heroically gave their lives to save others. But today, I would also like to congratulate two South Florida women who have dedicated themselves to saving thousands of lives in the fight against breast cancer. Dr. Randy Herman Schenkman, former medical director of the Diagnostic Breast Cancer of Baptist Hospital and Outpatient Services, and Dr. Marietta Glazer, a therapist and pioneer of the first ostomy outpatient clinic at Memorial Regional Hospital. These women of visions have dedicated their careers to educating, imaging, and diagnosing women with breast cancer.

On Thursday, October 18, they will join the American Committee for Weizmann Institute of Science to explore the diagnostic and emotional aspects of breast cancer. They will share their knowledge and commitment to taking patient care to new heights. During this difficult time, it is inspiring to learn about the positive achievements of so many Americans. So I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these brave women for distinguishing themselves as champions in the war against breast cancer.

WE SHALL OVERCOME

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

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, for a moment let me speak about resolve. We have the tools of terrorism being used against us, whether they be anthrax or whether they be physical destruction. I came back from Missouri Sunday evening after talking with so many of the good folks that I represent, talking with young people; and I sense a deep resolve that I have not seen in a long time, a resolve to overcome the difficulties of terror. So from the heartland to those terrorists: we will win.

There are two things that we must do. Number one, we must continue to do what we do best. And that is be Americans, and we are resolved to do that. Number two, we must show our appreciation to the young men and young women in uniform. It was Cicero who once said that the greatest of all virtues is gratitude. So today in our resolve to go about our business and to keep our country strong, let us show added appreciation and gratitude to those who wear the uniform of the United States. We shall overcome this day.

FREEDOM SHALL PREVAIL

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

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, let me associate myself with the remarks of the gentleman from Missouri and also to salute all of the people that work in this fine building.

We have been under a unique amount of pressure in recent days, but I have to salute the entirety of this Capitol, the police, the rank and file workers, the members who work for the Clerk's office, the pages, everyone else who has participated in keeping an orderly transition for our government.

Mr. bin Laden, your 15 minutes of fame are about over. The United States is united together in an attempt to rid the world of people like you who have threatened civilization, harmed our citizens, and now are infecting our territories with a bacteria. You will not

win. You will not win this battle, because the United States stands for freedom, and that freedom shall prevail.

We thank you all, our citizens, who have rallied behind the flag and our President, we thank you for entrusting us, not only with your votes, but your opportunity to lead this country. And as Members of Congress, we remain united behind our President to rid the world of terror, to rid the world of hatred, and to make certain that your days are numbered.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members need to be reminded that comments should be directed to the Chair and not to anyone who may be watching the proceedings.

THREAT OF WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST

(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, reports say there is a growing number of Arab people opposing Uncle Sam, and they are also beginning to oppose their own leaders. If these reports are true, Arab nations are now vulnerable. Egypt and Mubarak may fall. King Fahd in Saudi Arabia may fall. Musharraf and Pakistan may fall, and they say that Arafat has now even insulated himself. These possibilities would destabilize the entire Free World.

I ask Congress, and I yield back the need to establish a Palestinian State, the first step necessary to avoid war in the Middle East and war spread throughout the entire world.

NUCLEAR TERRORISM

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, Osama bin Laden's thirst for destruction is only limited by the tools he has at hand. Last month, his henchmen destroyed the World Trade Center and took almost 6,000 innocent lives. Many of us said at that time that if he had chemical, biological, or nuclear weapons, he would use them.

Well, now we have confirmation. Russia's Interfax news agency is reporting that al-Qaeda has repeated attempts to buy nuclear material through the Russian Mafia. There is a lot of surplus weapons-grade nuclear material left in Russia left over from the Cold War and some of it has ended up on the black market. Bin Laden established contacts with representatives of Russian organized crime gangs in Germany, Belarus, and Russia. As far as we know, bin Laden has been unsuccessful in his