

We would want to be sure that the rule would, in all fairness, give us the opportunity to offer our proposal as a substitute. Mr. Speaker, could the distinguished majority leader assure us that the Committee on Rules would make such a provision or substitute in order?

Mr. ARMEY. If the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) will continue to yield, let me just say that obviously the Committee on Rules will act on this, and I am sure the gentleman from Minnesota and others will make our recommendations to the Committee on Rules.

I can only tell the gentleman at this time that I will be recommending that a substitute be made in order.

Mr. OBERSTAR. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. BONIOR. I thank my colleague, and I wish him a good weekend.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2001

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

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

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2001

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, October 29, 2001, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 30, 2001, 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. ARMEY. 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 3, 2001, 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 Minnesota (Mr. RAMSTAD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. RAMSTAD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. INSLEE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE WAR ON TERRORISM AND THE FUTURE OF AFGHANISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, the war on terrorism continues; at home we deal with a chemical and biological attack, something that is unprecedented in our history; and overseas, our military forces are striking their targets in Afghanistan and they are involved in special operations in that country. This is a war on terrorism. This is a war in the truest sense of the word.

But what is important for us at home now to fully understand is that before we can win the war, we must be able to define what victory means. That definition is as important now as is our efforts to win the war physically and militarily.

Security at home is certainly an important goal that will mean victory or defeat. If we are not secure at home at the end of this conflict, there will have been no victory. Certainly we understand that: security and freedom for the United States of America.

Number two, the war on terrorism as outlined by the President sets some very majestic and very admirable goals, goals that we should not forget. And as we pursue victory in this war, let us remember that, from this podium, the President has set these goals that we should achieve before we can claim victory has been achieved.

One of those goals is setting a new definition for terrorism. Perhaps under George W. Bush, we will be at long last able to establish a definition of terrorism and unite the world behind the concept that it is no longer acceptable to target noncombatants in any type of conflict.

So whether they are Palestinians blowing up noncombatants in front of a Pizza Hut, or whether it is Israeli troops involved with some sort of retaliation against unarmed civilians for an attack that they have suffered, or whether it is a bomb going off anywhere that kills unarmed people, or people who shoot unarmed people and kill them to achieve any end, that will no longer be acceptable in the civilized world. This is a laudable goal and a long-term goal.

But before we can have peace, before we can have victory in this war on terrorism, there is at least one interim goal we must achieve; that is, peace in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan for these last 20 years and the people of Afghanistan have lived under terror and repression and

bloodshed in which so many of their noncombatants have been targeted. We must bring peace to the people of Afghanistan.

Unfortunately, that country has been the target of so many of the other countries around it who wanted to dominate Afghanistan. This itself has led to the conflicts in Afghanistan, and the horrible price that we eventually had to pay for ignoring that ongoing tragedy in Afghanistan.

Today I would submit that the King of Afghanistan, who has been exiled since the 1970s from that country, offers us the best hope, the only hope, of ending that ongoing tragedy.

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There are many forces trying to offer other solutions. But if you look right below, as far as the other solutions, they are nothing more than the countries around Afghanistan trying to dominate through a strong individual or a puppet the people of Afghanistan.

The King of Afghanistan is the most beloved person in his country. The people love him. For years and years they have seen his rule, which lasted for 4 decades, as a time of peace and prosperity. They know that he will watch out for their benefit and is not someone who will be dominated by the Pakistanis or the Uzbeks or the Tajiks or any other group, but instead will look out for the people of Afghanistan.

He has pledged to head a transition government that will only be in place for a few years while a democratic process is instituted so the people of Afghanistan can determine their own destiny and that must be our goal: peace in Afghanistan, and the people of that country being permitted to control their own destiny through the electoral process. This is what will bring peace to the world. And I would ask our State Department to side with this strategy rather than being manipulated by other governments, like Pakistan, who are trying to still, in some way, dominate that country of Afghanistan.

WORKING FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. STRICKLAND) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, this country is on a wartime footing, and I think we should be on a wartime schedule in this House of Representatives. The reason I say that is it is 1:15 in the afternoon. This House has completed its work for the day. The American people know that we left Washington last Wednesday evening. We did not return to Washington for session until 6 p.m. this Tuesday. Yesterday we went in to session at 10 o'clock in the morning. We finished at about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Today we went in to session at 10 o'clock. It is now only 1:15

in the afternoon, and we have finished for the week and will not return to this Chamber to our work until 6 o'clock next Tuesday.

The reason I think that is unacceptable is the fact that we have yet to deal with the airline security legislation. And every day that passes, American citizens who get on our airlines, do so without being as fully protected as they ought to be.

I have here today an editorial from the Columbus Dispatch, the major newspaper in Columbus, Ohio, which is the capital city of our State. It was written on October 16. The editorial says in part: "Since terrorists blew up Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988, many Americans have assumed that their checked baggage was being X-rayed. After all, without such a check, how could anyone be certain that a bomb hadn't been stowed in the cargo hold?"

As Americans know now, travellers who believe that baggage was routinely X-rayed were enjoying a false sense of security."

Mr. Speaker, the American people need to know that when they buy a ticket and get on a passenger plane in this country today, that it is likely that 95 percent of the luggage that is placed into the belly of that airline has not been screened for explosive devices. Think about that. We are being urged to go back to life in a normal way. We are being urged to use the airlines, to travel by air, to fly.

But the American people have a right to know that today this Congress has yet to take action, this House has yet to take action on a bill to provide them airline security and, especially, to require that all the baggage that is placed in the airplanes that we fly on, that baggage is checked for explosives.

Now, it really puzzles me why the House has not acted. This is something the American people absolutely want to have done. The Senate more than 2 weeks ago voted 100 to nothing, every Senator of both political parties voted to pass this airline security legislation which would require the 100 percent check of all the luggage that is placed on our airlines. And yet day after day has passed, week after week has passed; and the leadership in this House has refused to even allow that legislation be brought to this floor for debate and a vote. It is unconscionable and the American people have a right to be outraged.

I would like to share some other comments from this editorial written by the Columbus Dispatch on October 16: "Will there be no end to the revelations of how poorly the Federal Government, airport security workers and airlines have handled the job of protecting passengers? How many other rules aren't being enforced? How much evidence do House Republicans need to convince them that only a top notch security force, paid by the taxpayers and not hired by the low-bid contractors, will make the airways as safe as possible?"

"A bill passed by the Senate and pending in the House would federalize airport security. The House should stop playing politics with this essential legislation and pass it."

Those are the words of the Columbus Dispatch.

Many people are shocked to learn that here in the Washington area at the Dulles International Airport, 80 percent or more than 80 percent of the people who are responsible for screening our bags for explosive devices and making sure that weapons are not taken aboard our airlines, 80 percent or more are noncitizens. How can we do background checks on individuals who are noncitizens?

Mr. Speaker, this is a matter that deserves immediate attention on the part of this House. It is absolutely wrong that on Thursday afternoon at 1:20 in the afternoon we would discharge this House until 6 o'clock next week on Tuesday. It is wrong. The American people will not tolerate this continued delay, because their very lives are at stake.

NO GO FOR QATAR ROUND OF WTO TALKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, we have another bit of evidence on why free trade does not bring freedom.

The oil monarchy of Qatar wants to host the World Trade Organization talks next month, but yesterday the monarchy of Qatar condemned the actions of our brave soldiers who are fighting in Afghanistan in the war against terrorism.

Qatar's foreign minister said the following: the attacks against Afghanistan are unacceptable and we have condemned them. This same government two days after the September 11 attacks denied permission for America to use its airport facilities in the campaign against Osama bin Laden and the Taliban. Now the United States plans to send our top trade negotiators to this country for an international trade meeting?

Mr. Speaker, President Bush has said that in the war against terrorism every Nation must take sides, that each Nation must decide where it stands. The Government of Qatar made its decision yesterday, and Qatar is standing on the wrong side.

President Bush has no choice. He must not permit U.S. negotiators to attend the World Trade Organization ministerial in Qatar next month. There should be no Qatar round. Free trade should bring freedom.

A SAD STATE OF AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, it breaks my heart to see what is happening to our country today. All Americans have grieved over the losses served on 9-11. The grief for those who lost loved ones is beyond description. These losses have precipitated unprecedented giving to help the families left behind. Unless one has suffered directly, it is difficult to fully comprehend the tragic and sudden loss of close friends and family.

There are some who, in addition to feeling this huge sense of personal loss that all Americans share, grieve for other serious and profound reasons. For instance, many thoughtful Americans are convinced that the tragedy of 9-11 was preventable. Since that may well be true, this provokes a tragic sadness, especially for those who understand how the events of 9-11 needlessly came about.

The reason why this is so sad and should be thoroughly understood is that so often the ones who suggest how our policies may have played a role in evoking the attacks are demonized as unpatriotic and are harshly dismissed as belonging to the "blame America crowd."

Those who are so anxious to condemn do not realize that the policies of the American Government, designed by politicians and bureaucrats, are not always synonymous with American ideals. The country is not the same as the Government. The spirit of America is hardly something for which the Government holds a monopoly on defining.

America's heart and soul is more embedded in our love of liberty, self-reliance, and tolerance than by our foreign policy, driven by powerful special interests with little regard for the Constitution.

Throughout our early history, a policy of minding our own business and avoiding entangling alliances, as George Washington admonished, was more representative of American ideals than those we have pursued for the past 50 years. Some sincere Americans have suggested that our modern interventionist policy set the stage for the attacks of 9-11, and for this, they are condemned as being unpatriotic.

This compounds the sadness and heartbreak that some Americans are feeling. Threats, loss of jobs, censorship and public mockery have been heaped upon those who have made this suggestion. Freedom of expression and thought, the bedrock of the American Republic, is now too often condemned as something viciously evil. This should cause freedom-loving Americans to weep from broken hearts.

Another reason the hearts of many Americans are heavy with grief is because they dread what might come from the many new and broad powers the Government is demanding in the name of providing security. Daniel Webster once warned, "Human beings will generally exercise power when they can get it, and they will exercise it most undoubtedly in popular governments under pretense of public safety."