

COMMUNICATION FROM THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL COUNSELING OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Jacqueline Aamot, Director of Financial Counseling, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, April 24, 2002.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington,  
DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

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

Sincerely,

JACQUELINE AAMOT,  
Director of Financial Counseling.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HUMAN RESOURCES/OFFICE OF PAYROLL SUPERVISOR OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Christine A. Baptiste, Human Resources/Office of Payroll Supervisor, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives:

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

Washington, DC, April 29, 2002.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

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

Sincerely,

CHRISTINE A. BAPTISTE,  
Supervisor, Human Resources/  
Office of Payroll.

DISPLAYING THE TEN  
COMMANDMENTS

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

Mr. KERNS. Mr. Speaker, on this National Day of Prayer, citizens all across our great Nation will gather to give thanks to our Father in heaven for the blessings we have received and to ask humbly for His mercy.

On this day it is important that we recognize the role faith and religion plays in our Nation from its founding to the present day.

The Ten Commandments have been fundamental to the development of the basic legal principles of western civilization and our Nation. They have set forth a code of moral conduct that promises respect for our system of laws and the general good of society. Considering the positive influence they have had in our Nation, I believe we should proudly display the Ten Commandments and recognize the contributions they have made to the United States.

□ 1700

While some would have them removed all religious references from the public square, the historical facts cannot be ignored. There are liberal organizations that have twisted the first amendment and use the threat of costly lawsuits to restrict religious expression in our Nation. In the face of this pressure, we must stand together and work to reverse this trend.

In Montgomery County, Indiana, one individual with the support of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union based the threat of a lawsuit to have the Ten Commandments removed from the courthouse square. I found that alarming. In fact, it was a motivating factor for this legislation I wrote and introduced to require the display of the Ten Commandments here in the United States Capitol.

Our legislation has 31 cosponsors, and that is 31 Members of Congress. We are gaining support. On this National Day of Prayer, Mr. Speaker, I ask that we pray for our Nation, and we continue to have respect for our God.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I too want to rise this afternoon to recognize today as the National Day of Prayer. National Days of Prayer have been observed for several years in accordance with Public Law 100-307. Mr. Speaker, I cannot remember a day or a year that today has meant more for this Nation. The heart of our Nation was wounded on September 11, but this wound has begun to heal through the ceaseless prayers of the people.

We pray today for the continued grace of God upon our land. We pray for the safety of our men and women of the Armed Forces, many of whom are fighting across the sea in the war on terrorism, and we pray for peace throughout the world.

We also pray for wisdom and guidance for this body here in the United States House of Representatives, for the Senate, for the judiciary, for the President and also his administration. Great tasks and heavy responsibilities

lay upon our shoulders. Whether making decisions about the Middle East or international situations or policies for our own country, we pray that we do not rely on our own knowledge, but on the wisdom of God.

Mr. Speaker, today, all across America, individuals are meeting in courthouses, city halls, State houses and here on Capitol Hill, to observe this National Day of Prayer. Since 9 o'clock this morning at the Cannon House Office Building right across the street, hundreds of individuals have assembled together for that purpose, as one Nation, under God, and indivisible.

HONORING ARKANSAN WWII POW'S  
AND THEIR RUSSIAN COUNTER-  
PARTS

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three World War II POW veterans from the State of Arkansas who will be leaving this Sunday, May 5, to participate in an historic reunion with Russian World War II veterans in Volgograd, Russia.

In 1945 Silas LeGrow, Thomas Watt Bonds and Charley Stringer were liberated by Russian soldiers from POW camps in Manchuria, Germany and Romania respectively. Upon release, their Russian allies shared limited food rations, clothing and medical supplies to keep them alive. Without this generosity, our soldiers would have come much closer to death.

This week these men will travel to Volgograd to thank their Russian colleagues for saving their lives and enabling them to return home to their families in Arkansas. They will also celebrate Russia's Victory Day in Volgograd, which was known as Stalingrad in the Soviet era. World War II's bloodiest battle on Russian soil took place in Stalingrad, and so the celebration of Victory Day is of great significance to the local residents.

I would also like to recognize the University of Arkansas Medical School for their part in making the trip for these veterans a reality. In 1993, UMS formed a partnership with Volgograd Medical Academy, and this relationship resulted in the establishment of a Russian family medical department, a family medicine residency program and tuberculosis program. It is through this partnership that the city of Volgograd thoughtfully extended an invitation to the World War II POWs from Arkansas to join in the Victory Day festivities.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of this display of international friendship and remembrance by representatives from my home State. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to recognize them.