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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 5, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM MURPHY to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: All powerful and ever-living God, in You there is no darkness. From You nothing is hidden.

Shed upon us the radiance of Your light. May we see ourselves as You would judge us. May we see others as You would know them.

In the fullness of Your love and light, guide the Members of Congress that they may be men and women of great vision.

May they know in depth the American people they serve and enable them to read Your law written on their hearts.

Make them creative in their questioning and their search to respond to today's greatest needs.

For in them and through them, O Lord, You can reveal Your Divine Providence, again shaping America's history for tomorrow and future tomorrows.

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will receive five 1-minute speeches per side.

THE DISSERVICE TO MIGUEL ESTRADA AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today appalled that an extremist minority in the other body has forced Miguel Estrada, an excellent and well-qualified attorney, to withdraw his name as a candidate for nomination to the D.C. Circuit of the U.S. Court of Appeals. As chairman of the Constitution Subcommittee and as cochairman of the Working Group on Judicial Accountability, I have been actively following the fight over the President's nominations, and I am shocked by the obstructionism that has taken place.

Prohibiting an up-or-down vote on this outstanding nominee is not only a disservice to Miguel Estrada, it is a disservice to the American people. In a time of rampant Federal judicial va-

cancies, the partisan politics employed by the minority in the other body is nothing short of an outrage and it has to stop.

LEGISLATION RECOGNIZING S. TRUETT CATHY

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

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, good morning. I rise at a moment of great honor to introduce legislation this morning that will recognize an outstanding Georgian and an outstanding American and one of my constituents, S. Truett Cathy. This legislation will recognize Mr. Cathy by naming the United States Post Office in Jonesboro, Clayton County in my district after him.

The Chick-Fil-A story back in 1946 when Mr. Truett Cathy and his brother, with a \$10,000 loan, opened up a small, 24-hour restaurant in Hapeville, Georgia in my district called the Dwarf Grill. In 1967 in the Greenbriar Mall in Atlanta, Georgia, Mr. Cathy opened the first of the Chick-Fil-A restaurants and actually starting the concept of in-mall, quick-service, fast-food restaurant service.

Mr. Cathy is a devoutly religious man, and just to give an example of his character, every Sunday for the last 45 years, Mr. Truett Cathy teaches Sunday school to a group of 13-year-olds, and this has been going on for 45 years. Mr. Cathy is an extraordinary human being, a great American, who has established Chick-Fil-A restaurants all across this country, over 1,080 of them in 36 States, including the District of Columbia. What an extraordinary story.

Beyond that, a great humanitarian. Through his Winshape Foundation, he has established several foster homes across Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee,

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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and even in Brazil. It is with great honor, Mr. Speaker, that I introduce to you this morning this legislation recognizing Truett Cathy and naming the post office in Jonesboro, Georgia after him.

SUPPORT NATIONAL POW-MIA RECOGNITION DAY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, September 19, 2003 is National POW-MIA Recognition Day, and I urge my colleagues on that day to take a moment and reflect on the families whose loved one has never returned home.

Our resolve to find our 88,000 MIAs should assure our fighting forces today that our support for them does not end after the victory parades. Let us also remember the more than 140,000 Americans since World War I who have endured the hardships of captivity and made it back home.

Among the missing in action from Vietnam is Air Force Major Harold R. Sale of Lexington, South Carolina, shot down over Laos June 7, 1967. I wore a POW bracelet in his honor for years. I implore the governments of Laos, Vietnam, and North Korea to open their records and fully support our country's recovery efforts.

We continue to need people of character like Harold Sale to serve in our Armed Forces to protect our liberties. Indeed his nephew, Lieutenant Colonel Scott Cromer, continues the family tradition today as an Air Force pilot, displaying the courage of American military personnel.

In conclusion, God bless our troops.

SKYROCKETING HEALTH CARE COSTS

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, in Sunday's Chicago Sun Times, they had a headline noting the skyrocketing health care costs in America and how they were punishing consumers and businesses. One out of ten Illinois businesses are now looking at cutting their health care totally to their employees. We have double-digit insurance costs rising.

And what does the administration propose as we have record uninsured and record inflation in health care? Their proposal was to shut the hospital doors to the uninsured. And yet in Iraq, we are opening new hospitals. So on one day we shut the doors here in America to the uninsured, and on the next day we are opening new hospitals to deal with the uninsured in Iraq.

Today we have record unemployment, record uninsured in this country. In Iraq, we envision half the population

to get universal health care and 100 percent maternity coverage. And yet today, we offer the uninsured in this country nothing. That is our vision.

We have a major health care crisis in this country, and the administration has not taken a single action to lower the number of uninsured. We cannot deny Americans the same dreams of affordable health care, quality education, a safe place to live that we promise to Iraqis. The same values and future that we hold for Iraq, we must pledge for all Americans as well.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS PROTECTION ACT

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

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, it was King Solomon of Israel who said two millennia and more ago that it was the whole duty of man to fear God and keep the Commandments.

Thanks to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT), Congress has a chance to keep the Commandments in their place in the public square by passing the Ten Commandments Protection Act. With nearly 100 cosponsors, this act simply affirmatively asserts the provisions of the 10th amendment that say that State governments ought to be able to define how they display the Ten Commandments in State buildings. This is right under our law, that freedom of religion is not the freedom from religion, and respect for religion is enshrined in our history as we heard the prayer this morning and read "In God We Trust" on these walls, but it is mostly important because, despite the ethos of our times, God is still real and God still rewards nations that acknowledge him.

Let us adopt the Ten Commandments Protection Act and keep the Ten Commandments in their rightful place in the public square.

THE TROUBLED BUSH ECONOMY

(Mrs. MALONEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, this week we celebrated Labor Day. But for 9 million jobless Americans, there was no celebration at all, and sadly, their ranks are growing.

Today's Wall Street Journal notes that employers cut jobs for the seventh consecutive month in August, raising the total of job losses since the start of the year to over 431,000. Since George Bush took office, the number of unemployed Americans has grown by 3.2 million. This is the most dismal record since Herbert Hoover. Worse yet, the number of Americans experiencing long-term unemployment, which is defined as over 27 months, has nearly doubled since George Bush took office.

These are staggering numbers. A famous Republican once asked "Are you

better off than you were 4 years ago?" It seems very fitting to ask now, are we better off than we were 3 years ago? The answer is a resounding no.

HONORING GENERAL RAYMOND G. DAVIS, SR.

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

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart, as the State of Georgia and indeed the entire Nation suffered the loss of a true hero. Two days ago, at the age of 88, General Ray Davis passed away in a Georgia hospital.

Mr. Speaker, after graduating with honors from Georgia Tech with a degree in chemical engineering in 1938, Raymond G. Davis, Sr. joined the Marine Corps with a commission as a second lieutenant. He began a long and distinguished service to our Nation during World War II when he earned a Purple Heart and Navy Cross for actions in the Peleliu and Palau Island operations. In 1952 he was rewarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Truman for his part in the Marine Division's historic fight to break out of the Chosin area during the Korean War.

Overall during his military career, General Davis was awarded, among others, the Medal of Honor, the Navy Cross, two Distinguished Service Medals, two Silver Stars, two Legion of Merits, one Bronze Star and one Purple Heart. During the Vietnam conflict, he had various military assignments and duties including Commander of the 3rd Marine Division, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, as well as three personal medals from the Vietnamese government.

He was promoted to lieutenant general shortly after returning from Vietnam and became Commanding General Marine Corps Development and Education Command. President Nixon nominated him for the grade of general and reassigned him to the position of Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Upon receiving his fourth star and retiring in 1972, General Davis returned to Georgia and continued to serve his home State and the Nation. He ran the Georgia Chamber of Commerce for several years, attracting business and employment to our great State.

Mr. Speaker, our entire Nation benefited from General Davis's service, and his passing touches us all today. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, three children, seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

□ 0915

DAILY BLUE DOG REPORT ON NATIONAL DEBT

(Mr. SANDLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1