

people will support Israel in this. Certainly, the American people expect our leaders to do whatever it takes to protect our people.

Witness what is happening today. In response to the attacks of 9/11, we have waged all-out war, first attacking Afghanistan, then Iraq. Did America rise up and say we need to negotiate with bin Laden and develop a peace process? No.

The American people understand that there is no negotiating with blood-thirsty murderers. The only road to peace and safety is the obliteration of al Qaeda and the regimes that aid it. President Bush said: "Every Nation has a choice to make. In this conflict there is no neutral ground. If any government sponsors the outlaws and killers of innocents, they have become outlaws and murderers themselves. And they will take that lonely path at their own peril."

I could not agree with the President more. If this is the standard for America, why should it not be the same for another country? To deny Israel the right to do what it takes to defend itself is to deny Israel the right to exist and to turn our back on an ally and over 50 years of U.S. policy.

We must allow Israel to pursue the same goals for its people that we want for ourselves, the right to live in freedom peace and prosperity. We must stop defending and supporting this brutal, dysfunctional Palestinian Authority and its leader Arafat.

□ 1300

I agree with all those who say we may never end this war on terror until a solution to the Palestinian problem is found. However, negotiating with vicious murderers who seek the destruction of Israel is no solution. It only worsens the problem.

Let us give Ariel Sharon and the Israeli government the freedom to do what is right, to defend and protect their people.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 1 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord of history, we know You were with the Framers of our Constitution. Be with us here and now.

Be present to Your people across this Nation as they gather for community affairs, business and to pray.

The strength of this Nation has always been shown in its spirit. This free society is always at its best when in the face of diversity or adversity, we show tolerance, understanding, and compassion.

Before You, the task of building strong relationships comes from honest communication rooted in the silence of deep convictions. Trust grows with kind words and consistent behavior.

Mindful of our freedom, let us choose to water the seeds of tolerance, understanding and compassion in ourselves and in our children.

Then we will become the people the Founders envisioned and become a sign of hope for the world.

You, Lord, hold us together in the present moment and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CALVERT 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.

DISPENSING WITH CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR ON TODAY

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be dispensed with today.

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

There was no objection.

RICHMOND'S LITTLE CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I want to take a moment to recognize the members of the 2003 Lamar Little League all-stars from Richmond, Texas, for their sterling performance in the Little League World Series.

First of all, I want to commend Jim Michalek, the team's dedicated manager for his magnificent leadership.

Mr. Michalek and his coaches, Tim Hollek and Tom Staudt, devoted an enormous amount of time and effort to these young men. They made this team their lives for the summer of 2003, and the team's success is a testament to their dedication.

As for the boys themselves, Brian Foster, Randal Alexander Grichuk, Brandon Hollek, Marcus Martinez, Jimmy Michalek, Robert Psenka, Cody Robinson, Brady Rogers, Eli Sepulveda, Chris Smith, Garrett Austin Staudt, and Wayne Willis, they did Richmond and Fort Bend County proud this year and gave us a series to remember.

After that heroic battle with the kids from Saugus, Massachusetts, it will be a long while before the rest of the Nation forgets what the Richmond all-stars are made of.

I am honored to represent these young men and their families. Their determination and dedication is an inspiration, an example to Texans of all ages.

Over the course of this spring and summer, the Richmond all-stars have refined their characters along with their batting swings. They have learned the virtues of teamwork, virtues that will make them better boys, and one day, better men.

Competing in team sports teaches children the virtues of honesty, perseverance, loyalty, and courage; and doing so in the name of their hometown instills in them a sense of civic pride as well.

More than that, they have helped instill that very pride in all of us, their fans, who watched and cheered their amazing march to Williamsport.

No matter what the scoreboard said at the end of the game, the Richmond, Texas, Little Leaguers of 2003 will always be our champions.

THE NATIONAL DEBT

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

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, it has been 859 days since President Bush and the Republican Party embarked on their economic plan of our country. During that time the national debt has increased by \$1,169,750,943,211.93. According to the Web site for the Bureau of Public Debt at the U.S. Treasury yesterday at 4:30 p.m. eastern daylight time the national outstanding debt was \$6,810,076,329,570.70.

Furthermore, in fiscal year 2003, interest on our national debt, or the "debt tax" is \$304,978,878,641.11 through August 31.

VOTE ON JUDGE WILLIAM PRYOR

(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, our judicial system is under attack. The weapon of choice? The filibuster.

As cases back up in the Federal courts, some politicians are using the filibuster to prevent a vote on several highly-qualified, well-respected judicial nominees, and one of these nominees is William Pryor, highly-principled and well-qualified nominee for the Federal bench. Opponents to his nomination say that his personal views

will prevent him from being an effective judge, but experience proves otherwise.

His conduct during the Alabama Ten Commandments case has proven that his professionalism enables him to carry out and enforce current constitutional jurisprudence. In fact, it is his opponents who are allowing their personal views to stand in the way of carrying out the constitutional duty of filling Federal judicial vacancies.

It is that intolerance of anyone who disagrees with their political views that has brought our judicial system to a halt, and that is not right.

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, two days ago developing nations walked out of the World Trade Organization meeting, exposing irreconcilable differences between poorer developing countries and the U.S., the European Union, and Japan. Rather than dealing with the still broken promises of the past, U.S. negotiators wanted to press forward on a privatization agenda, restricting governments' ability to act in the public interest and giving more rights to multinational corporations at the expense of workers all over the world, in this country and abroad and at the expense of the environment.

The world obviously now knows with what U.S. citizens already know. The Republican trade policy does not work, that President Bush's desire to expand NAFTA to the rest of the world is antiworker, antienvironment, and hemorrhages jobs. That is why 10 percent of manufacturing jobs in this country have disappeared since President Bush took office because of these trade policy.

The U.S. cannot continue pushing this antidevelopment, antiworker, antienvironment agenda on the rest of the globe. The failure of the talks in Cancun is a victory for the people of the world, a reality the Bush administration cannot ignore. The Bush NAFTA trade model is broken. We should fix it.

SUPPORT THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES ACT OF 2003

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

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for America's museums and libraries. Libraries are the fundamental part of our society. In Georgia, 26.5 million patrons visited public libraries in 2002. They visited these libraries to check out materials, to use public access computers, access word processors, or the Internet, perhaps to attend free and fun learning activities with their families.

Later today, we are going to consider the Museum and Library Services Act.

This bill will maintain the Congress's support for museums and libraries across our country. Georgia's public libraries need this legislation and the funding to continue to provide the best possible library services to meet the needs of local communities and to continue working toward a more educated Georgia.

I urge my colleagues to support the Museum and Library Services Act later today.

THE HEMORRHAGE OF MANUFACTURING JOBS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the President appeared in Michigan yesterday but failed to address the hemorrhage of jobs that continues to plague Michigan and Ohio and indeed our entire country, good jobs in the manufacturing sector, which is where our economy has made the most productivity gains; Ohio losing over 180,000 jobs and Michigan 182,000 jobs, manufacturing jobs since he took office.

Our part of the country is really hurting, and all the President can propose is an assistant secretary in the Department of Commerce. What we need, Mr. Speaker, is a trade policy that puts people first, not the profits of multinational corporations first. We need to turn the U.S. Trade Representative's office upside down and clean it out and start striking trade agreements that create jobs and income in America again and do not create enemies for America abroad. NAFTA is not working. China PNTR is not working. And now the Bush administration wants to expand NAFTA to Central America and the rest of the hemisphere calling it CAFTA and FTAA.

Mr. Speaker, we need to export products, not jobs, and we need a trade policy that works for working Americans. I wish President Bush had talked about that in Monroe, Michigan yesterday.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the motion to go to conference on H.R. 2658, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2658, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2658)

making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan? The Chair hears none and, without objection, appoints the following conferees: Messrs. LEWIS of California, YOUNG of Florida, HOBSON, BONILLA, NETHERCUTT, CUNNINGHAM, FRELINGHUYSEN, TIAHRT, WICKER, MURTHA, DICKS, SABO, VISCLOSKEY, MORAN of Virginia, and OBEY.

There was no objection.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the motion to go to conference on H.R. 2559, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2559, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2004

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2559) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan? The Chair hears none and, without objection, appoints the following conferees: Messrs. KNOLLENBERG, WALSH, ADERHOLT, Mrs. GRANGER, and Messrs. GOODE, VITTER, KINGSTON, CRENSHAW, YOUNG of Florida, EDWARDS, FARR, BOYD, BISHOP of Georgia, DICKS, and OBEY.

There was no objection.

□ 1415

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which a vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes or postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.