

In exchange for Pakistan's assistance to the U.S. in the war against terrorism, the U.S. has already allocated \$3 billion worth of assistance, half of which is directed toward Pakistan to buy military equipment from the United States. The Bush administration must reevaluate their policies towards Pakistan. The new designation of major non-NATO ally is unfair, inappropriate and, most importantly, in my opinion, dangerous given the volatile nature of the South Asia region.

FOREIGN POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, in this country, in this city, sometimes the American media just does not get it. Tonight I rise to lay in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and for the American people two stories that have not gotten the attention they deserve regarding foreign policy and regarding the actions of two nations in two regions that are extremely important to the security of America and the world.

The first, Mr. Speaker, involves Serbia. Mr. Speaker, this nation went to war and for the first and only time convinced our NATO allies to use NATO as an offensive military entity to invade a non-NATO country in 1999 to remove a sitting head of state, Milosevic, from office for war crimes for which he is now being tried.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight not to question whether or not Milosevic committed war crimes. I am convinced that he did, that he committed ethnic cleansing and that he did unthinkable harm to individual people in the former Yugoslavia.

He is now being held accountable for his actions in a trial that has been going on for several years; but, Mr. Speaker, we cannot have a double standard, and this is what we have today, Mr. Speaker.

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Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, when we invaded Serbia and we went in with our military and the NATO military, I did not support the President's actions, as did many of our colleagues in this body. Not because I felt support for Milosevic, but because I was convinced we had not allowed Russia to play the role that they could have and should have played in getting Milosevic to agree to the terms that the NATO and other nations wanted after the meetings at Rambouillet, and I said so publicly. It was not that those of us who opposed President Clinton supported Milosevic, but rather that we thought there was a better way that would have avoided the kind of atrocities that were committed by our own bombing in Belgrade and other cities in the former Yugoslavia. But the fact is that we did bomb that country, and we continued it for a matter of weeks.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I was the one who assembled a delegation of 10 of our colleagues and myself, five Democrats, all supporters of President Clinton, and five Republicans to travel to Vienna after having discussed with Strobe Talbot, the number two person at the State Department, the offer of the Russians to me to help Russia play a role in resolving the crisis in Yugoslavia on the terms that the U.S. and NATO wanted. I also, Mr. Speaker, had access to a memo that had been prepared secretly by Strobe Talbot, which was briefed to both Sandy Berger and Vice President Gore. So I knew what the policy of the U.S. was with regard to Russia's involvement. And I also knew full well that we were not giving Russia the opportunity to play the kind of constructive role that it could have and should have.

Our meetings in Vienna with five Russian leaders and 11 American leaders resulted, over 2 days, in a framework that allowed the Russians and the Americans to come to an agreement and to agree concurrently that Milosevic had committed ethnic cleansing; that the armed Serbs should be withdrawn from Kosovo; that there should be a multinational force brought in. All of those conditions were what basically the Russians, when they were finally brought in several weeks later, were able to bring to the table to help us end that war.

Now, we were told, Mr. Speaker, that the ending of the war would end the ethnic cleansing. And, boy, were we wrong. The media blasted headlines all over the world with Milosevic's actions, and they still blast the actions of this war criminal and his ethnic cleansing. Where is the media today, Mr. Speaker? Where are the front-page stories in our major newspapers about the ethnic cleansing that took place aimed specifically at Serbs in the last week?

On the March 17, Mr. Speaker, a massive campaign of ethnic violence was carried out against Kosovo Serbs and other non-Albanians that continued for several days. These efforts were carefully planned, orchestrated, and coordinated by the leadership structures of the Kosovo Albanians, and they are unacceptable. Mr. Speaker, the estimates are that tens of thousands of Kosovo Albanians participated in the pogrom which resulted in the destruction of 90 percent of Kosovo's remaining predominantly Serb areas.

Mr. Speaker, 800-year-old churches and monasteries were destroyed. In total, 35 Christian holy sites were decimated. And even though they attempted to avoid personal atrocities against individuals, 31 Serbs were killed. Where is the outrage, Mr. Speaker? Where is the outrage that we saw from President Clinton in 1999 and Madeleine Albright? I have not seen former President Clinton or Madeleine Albright giving speeches today about the ethnic cleansing that was conducted against innocent Serbs, that

were supposedly going to have their freedom and their own safety protected by the U.N. forces, including Americans working in Kosovo. In fact, Mr. Speaker, this entire incident needs the full attention of this Congress, this government and the United Nations, as well as NATO.

There have been suggestions, Mr. Speaker, that there are ties between what occurred beginning on March 17 with al Qaeda, Hamas, the Albanian National Army, and Abu Bakr Sadik, among others. These ties need to be investigated fully. The campaign of ethnic cleansing that just took place against Serbs was conducted in such a way as to result in a little loss of life, although 31 people is significant, but with maximum material and psychological damage.

Why would that take place, Mr. Speaker? Because at a time when America and the world's attention is focused on Iraq and Afghanistan and other parts of the world, there are those with the ties to the groups I just mentioned who saw an opportunity to ethnically cleanse Kosovo, so that at some point in time down the road the position could be made that this nation no longer really has a significant Serbian population.

Mr. Speaker, where is the outrage from America? Where is the story from the American media about what happened in Serbia or in Kosovo last week? Are not the deaths of 31 innocent civilians, is not the burning of major religious institutions a story that deserves national focus in this country? We went to war, Mr. Speaker, in 1999. We went to war, and in fact we used NATO for the first and only time ever in an offensive military mode to remove Milosevic because of ethnic cleansing. Where is our outrage today with the ethnic cleansing that occurred last week against innocent Serbs? The attacks continued unabated for several days. In fact, in some cases they got worse as the attackers went in to all the Serbian enclaves.

Where was the protection that these people were guaranteed when the war ended and President Clinton told us that we had been able to rid the world of a dictator who had committed ethnic cleansing? Where was the protection for the destruction not just of the churches but of the electrical grid system and the damage to the mobile phone relay stations? Where was the protection for the Serbs, the Kosovo Serbs who attempted to seek shelter in churches and monasteries, but were prevented from being able to do so because those very churches and monasteries were the explicit objects of attack?

The estimates are, Mr. Speaker, that as many as 50,000 Kosovo Albanians were involved in this action. Is the world going to sit by and allow this kind of atrocity to occur? Is America going to pass some modest resolution that calls ethnic cleansing wrong? We did not do that in 1999, Mr. Speaker,

when we had evidence there was ethnic cleansing. All of us spoke out against it. When we went to Vienna and met with our Russian counterparts, 11 of us, we had in-depth discussions that resulted in the Russian delegates from the major political factions agreeing with us that ethnic cleansing had occurred.

Where is that same message today, Mr. Speaker? Why are our colleagues and why is the American media not demanding that the world do something about the ethnic cleansing that was perpetrated against innocent Serbs last week? And where are the investigations into the linkages of terrorist organizations that were allegedly involved in this activity?

Mr. Speaker, the reputation of America, the U.N. and NATO are all on the line right now. We talked a good game in 1999. We stood together. Even though we disagreed on the method of removing Milosevic and the ethnic cleansing, we stood together as a Nation, Democrats and Republicans, and we said ethnic cleansing was wrong. Does the silence in this body today mean that ethnic cleansing is okay because it is not being led by one person like Milosevic?

The Kosovo Albanians must be held accountable, Mr. Speaker. We must not let them off the hook. Ethnic cleansing is wrong, whether it is done by Serbs or whether it is done by Kosovo Albanians; and this Nation must stand up and shout out that message loud and clear. And if there was involvement by terrorist groups like Hamas and al Qaeda, then we need to know that.

Mr. Speaker, many people around the world have spoken out on this violence. I want to quote a few, just so that my colleagues will understand that those closest to the situation fully understand what happened. This is not Congressman CURT WELDON alone making this claim.

In fact, let me quote Admiral Gregory Johnson, CINSOUTH commander, United States Naval Forces, Europe. This was his quote: "This kind of activity actually almost amounts to ethnic cleansing, and it cannot go on. That's why we came here in the first place." That is from our own Admiral Johnson, referring again to the term "ethnic cleansing."

NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoo Scheffer: "What happened last week, orchestrated and organized by extremist factions in the Albanian community, is unacceptable."

Javier Solana, General Secretary of the EU Council and High Representative for the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy: "It's sad to see schools destroyed and children evacuated, people killed, and homes burnt. This is something which can't be tolerated. I'm shocked at the brutality, the destruction of schools, preventing children from being educated, the destruction of churches in which people only want to pray. Serbs are brave and must stay here. They must try to rebuild

their homes, and we will help them with that. I'm leaving with a lot less optimism than when I came. I regret that tomorrow I will tell the EU Council of Ministers what I saw and heard here and that a huge amount of time was wasted here."

Mr. Speaker, this was last week, not 1999, when we went to war. Where's the outrage in America today over the ethnic cleansing and the killing that just occurred in Kosovo?

Soloman Passy, OSCE Chairman-in-Office: "This isn't about a chance happening, about Albanian extremist elements stirred up the violence."

Derek Chappell, UNMIK spokesman: "There has been violence in Kosovo before, but this time it's coordinated action. The violence erupted in a number of places at the same time, which shows that it was planned in advance."

Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation: "This is ethnic cleansing. Even our Western colleagues accept that this is nothing other than ethnic cleansing. It is essential that there be a responsibly strong reaction in order to protect the Kosovo Serbs."

Mr. Speaker, I led the delegation to Vienna to convince the leaders of the Russian factions that they should admit that Milosevic had been involved in ethnic cleansing. I will not stand by and allow now the Russians to see the hypocrisy in America when we will not call the same actions by the Kosovo Albanians ethnic cleansing. That is what it was. That is what it is, and it must be called; it must be called into play. There must be a full and complete investigation, and those individuals responsible and involved must be held accountable.

I understand there are those making the rounds on the Hill this week and last week to try to cover up what occurred, to try to explain it away. You cannot explain away, Mr. Speaker, 31 deaths. You cannot explain away all the churches that were burned. You cannot explain away what the ultimate agenda was: to remove any presence of ethnic Serbs in Kosovo.

□ 2230

Mr. Speaker, the world needs to be consistent. The U.N., NATO, the U.S. and all of our allies must stand with the people of both Kosovo and Serbia for a consistent stand against ethnic cleansing, whoever may be the perpetrator. In this case, we have not done that, and it is wrong. An orchestrated campaign of ethnic cleansing must not be rewarded politically, and I will use my voice and will speak to our colleagues this week in encouraging a full and complete investigation of what occurred last week.

I will also, Mr. Speaker, ask and demand that the commitments that we made in the former Yugoslavia be followed up. In my visits to Serbia, to Belgrade, we have not carried out the promises that we made as a Nation to the people once Milosevic was removed from office, and that is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the media and Members of this body would focus on the plight of the innocent Serbian people who last week were dealt a very severe blow. Those Kosovo Serbs who were simply attempting to live in their enclaves were attacked, their institutions were destroyed and ethnic cleansing was done by those very people who cried ethnic cleansing back in 1999. This cannot be allowed to stand.

Mr. Speaker, the second story that has not been fully covered by the American media except for perhaps one newspaper, the Washington Times, is what occurred in Libya less than 1 month ago. Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States deserves significant credit for a story that has largely gone unreported in the mainstream American media. I did not see headlines on our national newspapers about what happened in Libya. I did not see headlines about the 90-minute speech that Muammar Qaddafi gave to his people on March 2. And so tonight, Mr. Speaker, I also want to talk about the untold story of Libya.

Mr. Speaker, approximately 8 months ago, after having helped form the International Energy Advisory Council made up of private energy corporations around the world, I was told by the representative of Libya, Abdul Majid Al-Mansouri, who is today here in Washington, that Libya was about ready to complete a major turnaround. I was intrigued. I asked to learn more. He told me that Qaddafi's son, Saif Islam Al-Qaddafi, wanted to meet with me and that if I came to London in October for a meeting of the International Energy Advisory Council, I could listen to Saif Islam Al-Qaddafi tell me the story of the change that was about to occur in Libya.

I could not make that trip in October, Mr. Speaker, but I did meet with Saif Islam Al-Qaddafi in January. We met for 3 hours and this young, 31-year-old, London-educated Ph.D. candidate in economics told me that his father was in the midst of a massive turnaround of this nation. Libya, which we have not had contact with for 29 years and which has been a major source of terrorism around the world, was about ready to change in a very dramatic way.

I was intrigued when Saif Islam Al-Qaddafi told me the story in the meeting that we had, and I said I was interested in potentially taking a delegation of our colleagues to visit with Qaddafi himself. While meeting with Saif, he made a cellular phone call and came back and said, you're going to be invited into Tripoli within the next several days.

Two days later, Mr. Speaker, a letter arrived from the Libyan parliament, the People's Congress, of what they call the Jamahiriya, their form of government, they call it a democracy, and that letter invited me to bring a delegation into Tripoli to visit.

Working with the military and assembling a bipartisan delegation of our

colleagues, as I always do, seven of us left Washington to visit Libya and then on to visit our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and spending a night at our military medical hospital at the military Air Force base in Ramstein, Germany. In fact, we brought 12 of our injured military personnel back home to America.

We spent 2 days in Tripoli, Mr. Speaker, 14 meetings in two days. We visited all the top officials of the country: Prime Minister Ghanem, the foreign minister, the minister in charge of removing weapons of mass destruction from Libya. We met with the leadership of Al Fateh University, a university with 75,000 students. We met with the leadership of the Qaddafi Foundation, which is now settling the claims of the families of the victims of the Lockerbie downing, that terrible tragedy that occurred, killing over 100 American citizens; and we met with Qaddafi himself.

We also traveled through the marketplace unannounced to gauge what the response of the Libyans would be to our visit. We had been told by officials at the National Security Council here in America that we would not be welcomed, the American flag would not be welcomed. Nothing could have been further from the truth. The reception was warm, and the attitude of every Libyan citizen that we met was positive. When they found out we were Americans, they put their hands out to shake our hands, they hugged us, and they thanked us for coming.

Our meeting with Qaddafi was held in his tent, across the field filled with camels from his home that we had bombed in 1986. The home is still in the same shape that it was back then, with the furniture and the holes in the walls exactly as it was after the bombing, which, as we all know, killed his year-and-a-half-old daughter.

The meeting with Qaddafi in the tent was a difficult one for those of us on the delegation because no one had met with Qaddafi from America. No one had been in Libya from America for 29 years. We were the first.

When we met with Qaddafi, we told him that we were glad to be invited there. We were happy that his statements were such that he was renouncing terrorism and had pledged to give up his weapons of mass destruction and that we would judge him not by his words but by his actions.

We also told him, Mr. Speaker, that we would never forgive and never forget what Qaddafi and the Libyans had done in helping to support terrorism around the world, especially the bombing of Pan Am 103 and the bombing in a Berlin nightclub that killed two young American GIs. But we told him that if he did what he said he was going to do in removing weapons of mass destruction, then our government would move quickly to establish a new direction in our relationship.

Our trip was a successful trip, Mr. Speaker, so much so that as we left

Libya that first trip back in early February I was invited to come back on March 2 and deliver a speech to the people of Libya at the 27th session of what they call the great Jamahiriya, the assemblage of the leadership of the governing bodies throughout the country. Again we assembled a bipartisan delegation, and this time I called Senator JOE BIDEN and asked him if he would join us to have both bodies and both parties involved. He agreed, Mr. Speaker, but could not be with us on our plane so was provided a separate plane by the White House and landed the day that we were leaving, although we waited to greet him at the airport terminal to give him a briefing on Qaddafi's speech.

On our trip to Libya the second time, Mr. Speaker, we spent a day in Tripoli. We went back to Al Fateh University. We met with the students. We were in classrooms. We met with the faculty, the deans. We met with the Libyan Foundation. They told us about their plans for a massive human rights campaign. They explained to us their efforts to move Libya back into the family of nations. They talked about their efforts to deal with health care issues like AIDS. They talked about the Red Crescent and their attempt to bring Libya into the fold of the International Red Cross. They talked about Libya's efforts to deal with the human rights concerns of all Libyan people.

We thanked them for their time and then moved on the next day to Sirte, the city where Qaddafi is from. In Sirte 2 days earlier, the leaders of the 53 African nations had assembled for meetings about the unity of Africa with Libya in a leadership role. When visiting Sirte, we were taken out to the site of one of the largest manmade construction projects in the world, the project that Libya has been undertaking for over 20 years, to build the largest manmade river on the face of the earth, some 7,000 kilometers. This manmade river, in concrete pipes that are 12 feet in diameter, is supplying water to areas of the desert to convert them into arable usage for agriculture and farming and for the people to live on.

While we were there meeting with officials from all over the world, from the African nations, Europe, the Far East, China, South America, Central America, the Middle East, we prepared for the evening event, the opening session of the great Jamahiriya. We were ushered into the auditorium that probably seated 1,000 people, Mr. Speaker, and in that auditorium were 600 members of the elected bodies of the government of Libya, representing small towns, large cities, trade groups, educators, and a diverse section of the Libyan population. Some were dressed in traditional attire. Others were dressed in western dress, all of them sitting waiting for the speakers to begin the opening session. Over 100 countries were there, Mr. Speaker, leaders of the foreign ministries, ambassadors, for-

eign ministers themselves and parliamentary heads.

They brought our delegation in, Mr. Speaker, and placed the American Members of Congress in the front row for all to see. The session began with speeches by the Speaker of the Libyan parliament. That was followed by a speech from a female leader of the Libyan parliament who talked about women's issues in Libya. And then we had a speaker from the European parliament, the Egyptian government, the French parliament and several other countries from around the world.

Within about 30 minutes, Mr. Speaker, I was introduced to speak on behalf of our delegation. I spoke for approximately 15 minutes, beginning and ending my comments with Arabic to show some sensitivity to these people who we had considered our enemy for 29 years.

When I finished my speech and sat down, another speaker spoke for 2 or 3 minutes, and then Colonel Qaddafi himself was introduced. Mr. Speaker, the fireside chat, because that is what it was, it was not really a speech, there were no notes, the fireside chat that Muammar Qaddafi gave on live TV throughout Libya that night carried by Al-Jazeera but by no western media source, not one TV station, not CNN, not Fox, not ABC, NBC, CBS, none of them, but carried live throughout the Arab world, especially in Libya, was a speech that I equated with, at the end, the tearing down of the Berlin Wall and the event that eventful day in Moscow back in 1992 when President Boris Yeltsin stood atop the tank outside the Moscow White House surrounded by 100,000 Russian people and he proclaimed that communism was dead, that the Soviet Union was no longer a nation.

This speech was of equal importance because, for 90 minutes, Muammar Qaddafi, the symbol of terrorism throughout the world, the individual who funded the IRA in Ireland, who funded the Sandinistas in Nicaragua, who funded the radical Palestinians and who openly admitted that to his people that night, this speaker told his people that he had been wrong for 25 years. He sat there and he said, we supported all of these terrorist groups. We supported them with our money and with our efforts. And what did it get us? It got us isolation. It got us constant rebuke by nations of the West, Europe, America, and other nations around the world. It brought us sanctions by the U.N. and by America. It isolated us and our economy.

He went on to say, we were a major supporter of Nelson Mandela in South Africa when he was imprisoned. But when Nelson Mandela came out of prison, he became a best friend of America.

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He said, How can Nelson Mandela, the man we supported, be a best friend of America and we be America's enemy? He said, There is something wrong.

As we sat there listening along with our European and other friends from around the world, our mouths were open. We could not believe the words he was saying to his own people. He referred to our delegation in the room at least five times; and he said, We are happy to have the Americans here for the first time in 3 decades. But he said, My speech and my decision is not because of the Americans alone. It is because we have decided that what is best for Libya and its people is to destroy and get rid of all of our weapons of mass destruction.

And so to his people, after admitting that he had been wrong for 25 years in supporting terrorism, Moammar Kadafi said, We no longer want any weapons of mass destruction; and we are giving it all up to the British, to the Americans, to the U.N.

And, in fact, they have done that, Mr. Speaker. We brought back boatloads of materials, nuclear material down at Oakridge which Secretary Abraham showed off to the people of America just a week ago. Nuclear fuel rods back to Russia, chemical agents and precursors, mustard gas that we are now destroying. The material to build weapons of mass destruction were in the hands of Moammar Kadafi; and here he was telling his people, No longer do we need or do we want these kinds of materials.

And then he went on to say, Mr. Speaker, in this amazing speech that America was never an enemy of Libya. He said, If America was our enemy, they would have taken us over. When we kicked them out of their military base in Tripoli, they would have stopped us and would have kept their position there, their troops there, and they would have attempted or would have successfully dominated our people and our country; but America did not do that.

And so for 90 minutes, Mr. Speaker, in a speech that largely went unheard outside of Libya and the Middle East, which is a terrible tragedy, Moammar Kadafi did a 180 degree turnaround. Amazing, Mr. Speaker.

But what was so disappointing is there were no headlines in the paper the next day. In fact, the only Washington reporter in the room that night was a reporter that I was able to get into the country, Ken Timmerman who writes for UPI and the Washington Times. Ken Timmerman on his own, because he could not fly with us on our plane, flew 36 hours and arrived in Libya at 4:00 a.m. in the morning. He went to all of our meetings. Nothing was closed. And I was able to get him a meeting personally with Colonel Kadafi. He asked all the tough questions, and he laid it all out in the Washington Times. But it was not in The Washington Post. It was not in New York Times. It was not in the Philadelphia Enquirer. It was not in the major newspapers of America, Mr. Speaker, this major change put forth by Moammar Kadafi. I would hope it

was not because of bias, and I have really criticized the White House for not coming out and taking credit for this dramatic turnaround of our former enemy.

The liberals left over from previous administrations are already starting to write their op-eds; it was not because of President Bush's policy. Let me tell the Members, Mr. Speaker, none of those who wrote those op-eds sat where I did for 2½ hours across the seat from Moammar Kadafi. So all of their rhetoric is just that, rhetoric. I sat across from Moammar Kadafi in his den, and I met with him for 45 minutes alone with his interpreter; and I, Mr. Speaker, as much as anyone else on this planet know what was in Moammar Kadafi's mind when he made the decision. And for those pundits who are today suggesting that it had nothing to do with our activities in Iraq and Afghanistan, I would say, Mr. Speaker, they are full of you know what. They are simply attempting to politicize a result that was, to a large extent, caused by the foreign policy of our President.

Mr. Speaker, I would grant to those colleagues assembled in our body here that that was not the only reason; but Moammar Kadafi himself told me that he realized that it was not worth the risk of having America come in and do to him what we did to Saddam Hussein. There were other issues. The influence of his 31-year-old son, Saif Islam Al Kadafi, had a major impact on his father. The need for a modernization of the Libyan economy had a major impact. But for someone to say, as various people have done in op-eds running around the country, that the foreign policy of this President had nothing to do with Moammar Kadafi's decision, they are just lying. They are naive. In fact, they are stupid. And I can say that, Mr. Speaker, because I am the only American that has sat across from Moammar Kadafi in the last 2 months, for 2 hours and 45 minutes in one sitting and another hour in a second sitting. I understand what caused the decision.

Mr. Speaker, after the speech there was a huge round of applause from the assembled Libyan citizens in the auditorium and again the speech was carried live on Libyan TV; then they ushered our delegation back to the auditorium where they wanted us to greet Colonel Kadafi. Representatives from over 100 nations were following us all over the world. The Chinese had a delegation headed by the leader of their Parliament, the European Parliament, the French Parliament, all the African countries, the Middle Eastern countries, South America, Europe, Russia. They were all there. Even North Korea was there, Mr. Speaker.

They put us up at the front of the line, the Americans. I walked up and put my hand out to shake Colonel Kadafi's hand; and I said, Your speech was extremely impressive. I think it will go down in history as a major event that will impact the world.

He said, Congressman, I sat in the back in my office in the back of the auditorium and listened to your speech, and I enjoyed it very much.

And I said, Would you do me the honor of signing my speech?

So, Mr. Speaker, on that night of March 2, after 29 years, Colonel Kadafi, in front of our delegation and those with us from other nations, signed the speech. After he signed the speech, Mr. Speaker, he admired a pin that I had on my lapel. When we travel on CODELs, as all of our colleagues know, we wear the pin of our country and the pin of the flag of the country we are visiting. Our military escorts had given us pins with the American-Libyan flag interconnected. Kadafi admired the one on my lapel. I took it off, and I handed it to him. I said, Here, this is for you.

He put it in his hand and thanked me. And his top assistant standing next to him, who is a personal friend of mine, looked at me and said, Congressman, put the pin on his lapel.

So, Mr. Speaker, after 29 years of hatred between America and Libya, after bombings and killings that have killed innocent people, Moammar Kadafi wore the pin with the American flag and told us that he would follow through on each and every commitment that he had made to our State Department and to our President. In fact, it was amazing as all the delegations behind us, including the French, had to shake Kadafi's hand while the flag of America emblazoned his lapel.

Our delegation, Mr. Speaker, was bipartisan; and our delegation consisted of Democrats and Republicans from throughout the country who were there for this historical evening and this historical speech.

It is just a national tragedy, Mr. Speaker, an international tragedy, that the media throughout the world did not cover this event, did not have the photographs, did not have the text of what Moammar Kadafi told his people. But we will tell the story, Mr. Speaker, and we will go around and continue to support this administration in removing the weapons of mass destruction material that Kadafi has been giving us through his government.

This week, Mr. Speaker, Majid Al-Mansouri is in America. He is visiting with our leaders. He is interacting with Members of Congress, and he is here as a private citizen but a close adviser to both Prime Minister Ghanem and Saif Islam Al Kadafi to establish contacts with Americans. So I will be calling upon our colleagues in this body to spend some time with Majid Al-Mansouri as he describes in detail the efforts now under way.

Secretary Burns visited Libya last week and has begun the formal process of moving toward establishing an embassy in Tripoli and an embassy here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, this is an unbelievable story. I wish the White House would take more credit. Typically, politicians are always taking credit for things

they had nothing to do with, and here is our President not even talking about the historical nature of Kadafi's turnaround. That is why I am here tonight, Mr. Speaker. I am here because the American media has not told the story except for the Washington Times and Ken Timmerman. And I am here to tell all those cynics that the turnaround is real. We must encourage this turnaround, continue to support the Lybians as the Kadafi Foundation fights for human rights, fights for the kind of health care needs, fights for the continuation of movement toward free and fair elections that we take for granted sometimes in this country.

Two stories, Serbia and Libya, that need to be told in every newspaper in America.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal reasons.

Ms. KILPATRICK (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal business.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and until noon March 30 on account of official business in the district.

Mr. HULSHOF (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today and March 30 on account of a family emergency.

Mr. OSE (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of family reasons.

Mr. PORTMAN (at the request of Mr. DELAY) for today on account of the death of a family member.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. EMANUEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MEEKS of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CONYERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GUTKNECHT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MCCOTTER, for 5 minutes, March 31.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and March 30, 31, and April 1 and 2.

Mr. BURGESS, for 5 minutes, March 31.

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SOUDER, for 5 minutes, today and March 30.

Mr. HENSARLING, for 5 minutes, March 31.

Mrs. BLACKBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CARTER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida, for 5 minutes, March 31.

(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Mr. Trandahl, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled bills of the House of the following titles, which were thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 3926. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote organ donation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1997. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, and the Uniform Code of Military Justice to protect unborn children from assault and murder, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 56 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, March 30, 2004, at 9 a.m., for morning hour debates.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

7288. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final "Major" rule—Meat Produced by Advanced Meat/ Bone Separation Machinery and Meat Recovery (AMR) Systems [Docket No. 03-0381F] (RIN: 0583-AC51) received March 23, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7289. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Prohibition of the Use of Certain Stunning Devices Used to Immobilize Cattle During Slaughter [Docket No. 01-0331F] received March 23, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7290. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Prohibition of the Use of Specified Risk Materials for Human Food and Requirements for the Disposition of Non-Ambulatory Disabled Cattle [Docket No. 03-0251F] received March 23, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7291. A letter from the Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule—Transfer of Voluntary Inspection of Egg Products Regulations [Docket No. 01-031F] (RIN: 0583-AC94) received March 23, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7292. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Ammonium Bicarbonate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [OPP-2004-0001; FRL-7341-3] received March 22, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

7293. A letter from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting notification of the 2004 compensation program adjustments, including the Agency's current salary range structure and the performance-based merit pay matrix; to the Committee on Agriculture.

7294. A letter from the Principal Deputy, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of the Department's intention to convert the combined commissary and exchange store at Orlando, FL, effective 90 days after the date of this letter; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7295. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the annual report on operations of the National Defense Stockpile (NDS) in accordance with section 11(a) of the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act as amended (50 U.S.C. section 98h-2) detailing NDS operations during FY 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

7296. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's STARBASE Program 2003 Annual Report, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2193b(g); to the Committee on Armed Services.

7297. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Twenty-Sixth Annual Report to Congress consistent with Section 815 of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1692m; to the Committee on Financial Services.

7298. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Human Reliability Program [Docket No. S)-RM-00-HRP] (RIN: 1992-AA29) received March 1, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7299. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule—Financial Assistance Rules (RIN: 1991-AB66) received March 22, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7300. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Illinois; Definition of Volatile Organic Material and Volatile Organic Compound [IL218-01a, FRL-7635-5] received March 22, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7301. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Control of Emission of Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) From Cement Kilns [TX-164-1-7622; FRL-7638-5] received 22, 2004, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

7302. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of State