

Stephen Hadley, the national security adviser, said he was not only doing operations, but was also into finance and administration; and he calls it a "real accomplishment."

As I learned when I visited Pakistan last December, and let us be clear on this point, while Pakistani authorities are to be commended for the third-ranking member of al Qaeda, let us make sure that we know as Americans it was a cooperation with American forces and American intelligence personnel on the ground in Pakistan that made that possible. A joint effort with Pakistan is winning the war on terror.

#### ABUSE OF POWER

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

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday morning I gave a constituent a lift to the airport in Seattle going to the airport on my daily commute to Washington, D.C. I asked him what his feelings were, if any, about what is happening in Washington, D.C.

He said he is bothered by what he perceives as the abuse of power that is going on here in Washington, D.C. I asked him what he meant by that. It was very interesting because sometimes we do not know if people are paying attention to what is happening here, but he itemized a list of things that he was concerned about.

He was concerned about trying to do away with this checks and balance system that we have in our Federal judicial system. He was concerned about the attack on the independence of our courts. He said he was concerned about the attack on one of the checks and balances we had in the U.S. Senate in the filibuster that was so successful in keeping a stable democracy.

And he said, and this really surprised me, he said he was concerned about the abuses going on in this Chamber in trying to change the ethical rules just to protect one Member. He basically said, something smells.

Mr. Speaker, he is right; and I urge my colleagues to stop this long train of abuses of power in Washington, D.C.

□ 1015

#### MRS. FLORENCE TREPP

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

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I come to floor of the House of Representatives to congratulate my good friend and wonderful Nevada, Mrs. Florence Trepp on her 80th birthday. This very special lady has dedicated much of her life to public service and various charitable causes, including working with abused children. Most notably, Florence has been an active supporter of the Parasol Community Foundation. A

foundation founded by her son Warren in 1996, the Parasol Foundation is a unique organization promoting philanthropy, collaboration and volunteerism in the Lake Tahoe area. This foundation has been successful in ensuring that local charities with common or similar missions work together to improve their community and achieve their goals.

Florence Trepp's dedication to her community and to her family stands as a role model for all of us. So, Florence, from all of us who admire you, from all of us who love you, and from the United States Congress, happy birthday.

#### SHIRLEY QUEJA

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

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Shirley Queja, a dear friend and undeniably one of the most dependable and dedicated individuals on Capitol Hill.

Shirley is retiring after 27 years of service to the Congress—first for Senator Spark Matsunaga, then for my husband, Bob Matsui, and finally for me during my first 2 months here in this Chamber.

Shirley possessed an uncommon dedication to her work, always prepared, and never leaving anything to chance. She was always poised, even under the most trying of circumstances. And as all of the members of the extended Matsui family can tell you, she just might have one of the biggest hearts in town.

To her loving and patient husband, Irv, and her beautiful and intelligent daughters, Clarissa and Cassie, thank you for sharing Shirley with our family. And, Shirley, please know that Brian, Amy, Anna, and I will always have a special place in our hearts for you.

I ask all my colleagues to join me in celebrating the career of this consummate professional and extraordinary person.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF JESSICA EGGIMANN

(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, with the continuity of a congressional session, there is a normal shuffling of staff positions. Today, it is with mixed emotions that I announce the departure of Jessica Eggimann.

For the past year and a half, Jess Eggimann has had one of the most difficult jobs on Capitol Hill—serving as a scheduler in my office. Due to her professionalism, dedication and strong work ethic, she has managed my hectic schedule with exceptional efficiency and patience, fulfilling the rec-

ommendation of Congressman JEFF MILLER, her hometown Member of Congress.

Although I am sad to see her leave, I am thrilled Jessica has been selected to work with the firm of Copeland, Lowery, Jacquez, Denton & White. Jessica is a person of high integrity and competence, and I am confident she will excel in her new position.

Jessica Eggimann is one of two daughters of Gail and the late Craig Eggimann of Pensacola, Florida. She is a credit to the people of South Carolina and Florida, and I wish her Godspeed.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11.

#### LOBBYING REFORM

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

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, a constant stream of headlines in recent weeks has opened the public's eye to the all too cozy relationship between lawmakers and professional lobbyists. Professional lobbyists have become a virtual "back office" for Congress, serving as travel agents, employment agencies and authors of legislation. We have had a debate on campaign finance reform that ultimately set the rules between donors and candidates. Now we need a similar debate and legislation on how to distance the People's House from the professional lobbyists on K Street.

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MEEHAN), the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and I have drafted the Lobbying and Ethics Reform Act. Our bill creates a code of official conduct for congressmen; closes the revolving door by requiring former Members and staff to wait 2 years after they leave Congress before lobbying the institution; ends the practice of lobbyists serving as congressional travel agents by arranging lavish junkets for Members; and requires lobbyists to disclose their past connections, previous Hill employment and financial activities on a public database.

Mr. Speaker, when that gavel goes down, it should open the People's House, not the auction house for special interests. Only through lobbying reform can we restore the integrity of the Congress and regain the public's trust.

#### PRIMARY PREVENTION

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

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, we are all concerned about the high cost of health care. Americans can take action to reduce costs by taking better care of themselves, and the Federal Government should play a lead role in helping out.

For example, obesity-related diseases have annual costs of \$100 billion. Yet 7

out of 10 adults are overweight and obesity rates among children have doubled in the last decade. Diseases associated with a lack of physical activity amounted to a yearly cost of \$76 billion. The direct and indirect medical costs of smoking are \$138 billion per year, and the costs of alcohol abuse are about \$184 billion in one year.

Businesses that educate people about healthy lifestyles can reduce health care costs. Companies like Motorola, Caterpillar and Johnson & Johnson have saved \$1 to \$4 in benefits for every dollar spent on these programs.

The Federal Government should lead by example and leverage Federal resources to promote preventive health care solutions to educate the public on health risks and personal responsibility to prevent these avoidable conditions and health care costs.

Want to learn more? I encourage my colleagues to visit my Web site at [murphy.house.gov](http://murphy.house.gov) to learn more about these issues.

#### RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEXICAN HOLIDAY OF CINCO DE MAYO

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, today Americans and individuals will observe the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo with celebrations and festivities. But sadly, most Americans do not know what we are really celebrating. That is why I have introduced H. Con. Res. 44, which recognizes the historical significance of Cinco de Mayo.

Cinco de Mayo is the anniversary of the date in 1862 on which the Mexican army, outnumbered, defeated the French in the Battle of Puebla, because they believed in the values of freedom and liberty, the same values that we celebrate today in the United States.

Today, that same spirit is evident in Mexican-American culture, and we pay tribute to that great spirit on Cinco de Mayo. Latinos have fought in all of America's wars, beginning with the Revolutionary War. They have given their lives, the ultimate sacrifice, for the freedoms that we enjoy here today. Many Latinos are fighting and dying today in Iraq. The foundation of our Nation was built by people from many nations and diverse cultures that were willing to fight and die for freedom.

We observe today Cinco de Mayo. Let us remember what it stands for and why many individuals have given their lives for this day.

#### ROBERT HUGHES

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, Dunbar High School, Fort Worth, Texas, for the last almost half century, their

men's basketball program has been guided by Coach Hughes. That is why I rise this morning to recognize the service and commitment of Robert Hughes of Fort Worth, Texas. Mr. Hughes, Coach Hughes, is our Nation's all-time winningest high school men's basketball coach and dedicated 47 years of service to coaching and educating students, helping them to succeed not only on the court, but also in life.

As Coach Hughes retires this year, we will no longer be measuring his wins on the court but the wins, the lives, he has helped create off the court. In taking time to teach his students, Coach Hughes chose not only to teach them about health and basketball, but about values and self-esteem as well. The loyalty with which Coach Hughes has served his students and Dunbar High is a testament to his passion for seeing every child succeed in life.

It is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize a man who has been a leader to so many throughout his lifetime. The legacy of Coach Hughes, on and off the court, shall serve as an inspiration to all those who wish to pursue their passion and make a difference in the lives of who they meet.

#### SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, last weekend, the President finished his 60 stops in 60 days tour. He traveled to a lot of places, but I wish he had come to my district because my district and my constituents would have told him, in no uncertain terms, that privatizing Social Security just does not cut it.

I have here over 3,000 petitions that were submitted to me by Rosalind Peterson and Becky Curry on behalf of the residents of three of my counties—Lake, Mendocino and Sonoma. They speak for people all along California's north coast who know that privatization will do three things: it will worsen the solvency of Social Security, it will lead to benefit cuts for everyone, and it will cause an explosion in our already record level national debt and our deficit.

My constituents know that Social Security is the most successful Federal program in our Nation's history. We need to strengthen Social Security to make sure it is solvent for future generations, but privatization is not the answer.

My constituents know that, and given the nationwide opposition to the President's privatization scheme, his constituents know it, also.

#### FIRST 100 DAYS OF CONGRESS: SUCCESSFUL

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

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share good news with the American people. We are beginning to see signs that the economy is clearly on the road to recovery. In fact, since May 2003, more than 3 million Americans went back to work. We have had 22 straight months of job growth. Last month alone, more than 110,000 Americans found jobs.

Clearly, the economy's growth is a direct result of the pro-growth agenda of the President and this Republican Congress. By holding the line on fiscal responsibility in the budget and passing pro-growth bills such as the death tax repeal and the bankruptcy bill, Republican Members continue to show their commitment to America's economy.

However, other steps must be taken to ensure our economy continues to grow. Today I urge my colleagues in the Senate to give Americans some relief at the pump by passing the energy bill, which would create 500,000 new jobs and begin the end to our dependence on foreign oil. It has programs that allow us to depend on our own resources, and that is the American way.

Over the past 100 days, House Republicans have demonstrated that we are dedicated to promoting policies that better the economy and help families out there who are counting on us. I hope that we can count on our friends in the Senate to follow our lead.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE WAR IN IRAQ

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, President Bush and the Republican leadership in the House are asking us today to vote again on a huge appropriations bill to fund the Iraq war without any oversight. I do not understand how we can be asked to vote on another huge appropriations bill to spend money in Iraq, and yet we do not have any oversight, any hearings to determine what the costs are and what the money is being spent on.

Yesterday I talked about how there have been renewed reports about how our soldiers are not properly protected. There is no exit strategy. What are the overall costs of this war? And what does it mean when we continue to go into deficit and do not have money to pay for domestic programs without having an exit strategy or even any defined strategy of what our goals are in Iraq?

As was mentioned earlier today by other speakers, we know that we went into Iraq for the wrong reasons. The weapons of mass destruction were never found, were never there. Yet no one within the Bush administration or within the Republican leadership basically tells us what the reason is, why we are remaining, how long we are going to be there or what the cost is going to be.