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SOCIAL SECURITY TELE-SCARE
TACTICS

(Mrs. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I have repeatedly stated I will oppose any cut in Social Security benefits to retirees or near retirees. However, many groups are using this debate to once again bully Americans. The most recent examples are the telephone scare calls that were made anonymously throughout Florida that began actually in my congressional district. Why my district? Because I have the highest number of people on Social Security. These people who hide behind anonymity have no courage. It reminds me of the Wizard of Oz and hiding behind the great curtain.

The bottom line is, under the bill that I introduced, H.R. 266, it will stop any proposal to reduce benefits dead in its track. I recommit my promise in that bill that I introduced, H.R. 266, the Social Security Protection Act. Congress would not even be able to consider a bill that reduces benefits to retirees.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). The Chair desires to make an announcement.

After consultation with the majority and minority leaders, and with their consent and approval, the Chair announces that tonight when the two Houses meet in joint session to hear an address by the President of the United States, only the doors immediately opposite the Speaker and those on his left and right will be open.

No one will be allowed on the floor of the House who does not have the privilege of the floor of the House.

Due to the large attendance that is anticipated, the Chair feels that the rule regarding the privilege of the floor must be strictly adhered to.

Children of Members will not be permitted on the floor, and the cooperation of all Members is requested.

The practice of reserving seats prior to the joint session by placard will not be allowed. Members may reserve their seats by physical presence only following the security sweep of the Chamber.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will now recognize Members for special orders not beyond 5 p.m., at which time the Chair will declare the House in recess.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana. addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER
TIME

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO).

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

There was no objection.

GRANT EQUITY TO FILIPINO WWII
VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House of Representatives Committee on Veterans Affairs, I rise to urge my colleagues to support the gentleman from California (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) and myself who have reintroduced H.R. 302, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act. This bill addresses a 60-year-old injustice which has cut to the heart of each and every Filipino American in this Nation and which was acknowledged in the last congressional session by over 200 cosponsoring Members of Congress, many veterans service organizations, religious organizations and many State and local officials in addition.

Sixty years ago, Filipino soldiers living in the Philippines, which was a territory of the United States, were drafted into service during World War II by an executive order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Under the command of General Douglas MacArthur, Filipino soldiers fought side by side with forces from the United States mainland, defending the American flag in the now-famous battles of Bataan and Corregidor.

Thousands of Filipino prisoners of war died, both on the Bataan Death March and in prisoner of war camps, at the rate of 50 to 200 a day. They endured 4 long years of occupation by the Japanese. The soldiers fortunate enough to escape capture, together with other Filipino citizens, fought

guerilla war against the occupation forces. These guerilla attacks foiled the plans of the Japanese for a quick takeover of the region and allowed the United States the needed time to regroup to defeat the invading army.

After the liberation of the Philippines, the United States used the strategically located Commonwealth of the Philippines as a base from which to launch the final efforts to win the war in the Pacific.

With their vital participation so evident, one would assume that the United States would be grateful to their Filipino comrades, so it is hard to believe that soon after the war ended Congress voted in the 1946 Rescissions Act to take away the benefits and recognition that many Filipino World War II veterans were promised.

These veterans are now in their eighties and in need of health care. Many are dying each year. Their last wish is to be recognized as honored veterans of the United States Armed Forces. Please support H.R. 302 to restore the rescinded benefits to Filipino World War II veterans, many of whom have now become citizens of the United States. Please cosponsor H.R. 302 to restore the dignity of Filipino World War II veterans for their defense of our common democratic ideals.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURPHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. MURPHY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SMART SECURITY AND THE CASE
FOR LEAVING IRAQ, PART 4

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, first, I want to congratulate the courageous Iraqi people who participated in last Sunday's election to nominate legislators to write Iraq's Constitution.

My congressional district gets it when it comes to the importance of elections to our democracy. In November's Presidential election, a record 89.5 percent of registered voters in Marin and Sonoma Counties turned out to vote.

The problem is that irresponsible behavior has been a guiding principle of the administration's behavior in leading the Nation to war in Iraq. This has been a dishonest war from the word go. The President said he had heard evidence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, yet to date no weapons of mass destruction have been found. President Bush himself has officially called off the hunt for weapons of mass destruction.

The Iraq invasion has made the Middle East a more violent and unstable

place, and it has made America less secure at home by creating a terrorist breeding ground in a country that was not a haven for terrorist organizations like al Qaeda before we invaded it. The sad irony is that after our Nation was attacked on 9/11 by al Qaeda, the Bush administration's response was to bomb and kill civilians in one of the few countries in the Middle East that was inhospitable to al Qaeda.

Mr. Speaker, there is no justice in an operation based purely on ideological reasons, reasons that caused the deaths of more than 1,400 Americans and untold thousands of Iraqis, not to mention well more than 10,000 American troops injured and very, very severely wounded.

So now that Iraq's elections are completed, we in the United States must ensure that the people of Iraq control their own affairs as Iraq transitions toward democracy. In fact, Sunday's election in Iraq gives the United States yet another opportunity to get back on track in Iraq. We can do this by supporting the Iraqi people, not through our military but through international cooperation to help rebuild Iraq's economic and physical infrastructure. We owe this to the people of Iraq, people who are being killed by the thousands, and to our troops who are sitting ducks for terrorists.

Last week, I introduced H. Con. Res. 35 with 24 original cosponsors, legislation that will help secure Iraq for the future and ensure that America's role in Iraq actually does make America safer. My plan for Iraq is part of a larger, smarter security strategy, which is a sensible multilateral, American response to terrorism that will ensure America's security by relying on smarter policies.

The withdrawal plan I have proposed includes four major components.

First, develop and implement a plan to begin the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. The soldiers who have died in Iraq leave behind grieving loved ones whose lives will never be the same because of the war in Iraq. The best way to support our troops is to remove them from harm's way.

Second, develop and implement a plan for the reconstruction of Iraq's civil and economic infrastructure. The United States has a moral responsibility to clean up the mess we made in Iraq, but that responsibility needs to be fulfilled not by our military but by humanitarian groups and companies that will help rebuild Iraq's infrastructure, and not through no-bid contracts to companies like Halliburton and Bechtel.

Third, convene an emergency meeting of leadership, Iraq's neighbors, the United Nations, and the Arab League to create an international peacekeeping force in Iraq and to replace U.S. military forces with Iraqi police and National Guard forces to ensure Iraq's security.

Iraq's security problems are still the most serious cause for concern in the

country, and Iraq requires an international peacekeeping force to address this problem, not the United States military. A peacekeeping force supported by Iraq's neighbors and the global community will provide real legitimacy to a conflict that has flown in the face of international law from its very beginning.

Fourth, take all steps to provide the Iraqi people with opportunity to control their internal affairs. The Iraqi people cannot truly control their own affairs until the United States military has ceded back authority to the Iraqi people. That is why it is essential for Iraq's police and National Guard forces to manage Iraq's security, not the United States military.

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear. We should not abandon Iraq. There is still a critical role for the United States in providing the developmental aid that can help create a robust civil society, build schools and water processing plants and ensure that Iraq's economic infrastructure becomes fully viable.

In the end, this is the smarter option and we must begin always taking the smarter path if we are to succeed in Iraq.

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES 109TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HUNTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I am submitting the Rules of the Committee on Armed Services for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

These rules were adopted on Wednesday, January 26, 2005 at a public meeting of the full committee, with a quorum being present.

RULES GOVERNING PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

RULE 1. APPLICATION OF HOUSE RULES

The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on Armed Services (hereinafter referred to in these rules as the "Committee") and its subcommittees so far as applicable.

RULE 2. FULL COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

(a) The Committee shall meet every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., and at such other times as may be fixed by the chairman of the Committee (hereinafter referred to in these rules as the "Chairman"), or by written request of members of the Committee pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) A Wednesday meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with by the Chairman, but such action may be reversed by a written request of a majority of the members of the Committee.

RULE 3. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the Committee on all matters referred to it. Insofar as possible, meetings of the Committee and its subcommittees shall not conflict. A subcommittee chairman shall set meeting dates after consultation with the Chairman, the other subcommittee chairmen, and the ranking minority member of

the subcommittee with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings wherever possible.

RULE 4. SUBCOMMITTEES

Pursuant to the authority granted by Section 3(b), relating to Separate Orders, of H. Res. 5 as adopted by the House of Representatives on January 4, 2005, the Committee shall be organized to consist of six standing subcommittees with the following jurisdictions:

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces: All Army and Air Force acquisition programs (except strategic weapons and lift programs, special operations and information technology accounts). In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for all Navy and Marine Corps aviation programs, National Guard and Army and Air Force reserve modernization, and ammunition programs.

Subcommittee on Readiness: Military readiness, training, logistics and maintenance issues and programs. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for all military construction, installations and family housing issues, including the base closure process.

Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities: Department of Defense counter proliferation and counter terrorism programs and initiatives. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Special Operations Forces, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, information technology and programs, force protection policy and oversight, and related intelligence support.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel: Military personnel policy, reserve component integration and employment issues, military health care, military education and POW/MIA issues. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Morale, Welfare and Recreation issues and programs.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces: Strategic Forces (except deep strike systems), space programs, ballistic missile defense and Department of Energy national security programs (except non-proliferation programs).

Subcommittee on Projection Forces: Navy and Marine Corps programs (except strategic weapons, space, special operations and information technology programs), deep strike bombers and related systems, and strategic lift programs.

RULE 5. COMMITTEE PANELS

(a) The Chairman may designate a panel of the Committee consisting of members of the Committee to inquire into and take testimony on a matter or matters that fall within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee and to report to the Committee.

(b) No panel so appointed shall continue in existence for more than six months. A panel so appointed may, upon the expiration of six months, be reappointed by the Chairman.

(c) No panel so appointed shall have legislative jurisdiction.

RULE 6. REFERENCE AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

(a) The Chairman shall refer legislation and other matters to the appropriate subcommittee or to the full Committee.

(b) Legislation shall be taken up for a hearing or markup only when called by the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, or by a majority of those present and voting.

(c) The Chairman, with approval of a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee, shall have authority to discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred thereto and have such measure or matter considered by the Committee.