

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Monahan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has agreed to the following resolution:

S. RES. 194

In the Senate of the United States, July 11, 2005.

Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served in the United States Army from 1942-1946;

Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served as Governor of the State of Wisconsin from 1959-1963;

Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served the people of Wisconsin with distinction for 18 years in the United States Senate;

Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson served the Senate as Chairman of the Select Committee on Small Business from the Ninety-Third through the Ninety-Sixth Congresses and as Chairman of the Special Committee on Official Conduct in the Ninety-Fifth Congress;

Whereas Gaylord A. Nelson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1995;

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Gaylord A. Nelson, formerly a Senator from the State of Wisconsin.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit an enrolled copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That when the Senate adjourns today, it stand adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Gaylord A. Nelson.

The message also announced that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to request the House to return to the Senate the bill (H.R. 2985) "An Act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.", to make technical corrections in the engrossment of the Senate amendment.

HONORING RABBI DAVID GREENE

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

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of our guest chaplain and my friend, Rabbi David Greene of Rochester, Minnesota. I often tell students when they come to visit the Capitol that the first official act of the United States Congress was to appoint a chaplain. The second thing that they did was they prayed, and it was not a perfunctory prayer. They prayed for 1½ hours. We have long understood the importance of faith in our society.

Rabbi Greene was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He attended the first Orthodox Jewish parochial school in Minnesota, received his ordination from the Rabbinical College of Canada in 1984, and completed post-graduate Judaic studies at Lubavitch Yeshiva in Brooklyn, New York.

Since 1988 Rabbi Greene has served as the Lubavitcher Rebbe's Emissary to Rochester, more specifically, to the Mayo Clinic. In his service, he meets

the spiritual needs of Jewish people who reside in or visit Rochester, Minnesota.

I thank Rabbi Greene for his service as our guest chaplain to the United States House of Representatives today.

ELLINGTON FIELD AIR FORCE
BASE

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

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, I question whether the Defense Department in the base closing process has neglected the obvious: homeland security.

No place does this appear more evident than Ellington Field in Houston, Texas. It is said that Ellington Air Force base with its F-16 fighters and National Guard units are of little military value. Without agreeing to that, I point out that over 8 million people live in the area. There are three major ports: the port of Houston, second largest in the United States, sixth in the world; Port Arthur; Port of Beaumont, where one third of the military cargo going to Iraq comes out of this one small port. The massive petrochemical and refineries in the region, Houston still is the energy capital of the world. Over one-half of the gasoline refined in the United States comes from this area. Of course, we have the nuclear power plant in southeast Texas, the largest medical center in the world, and then there is NASA.

Mr. Speaker, I served in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Ellington Field, and the people of southeast Texas want Ellington. They want to keep those F-16s flying. When 9/11 hit, it was the F-16s at Ellington that flew over the blue skies of Texas on watch. It would defy common sense to take those fighters from this needed area of securing the homeland.

KARL ROVE

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

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to talk about the disgraceful revelation that Karl Rove and people in the White House may have been involved in outing a CIA agent. How serious is this matter? I refer people to the quote of President George H.W. Bush. He said: "I have nothing but contempt and anger for those who betray the trust by exposing the name of our sources. They are, in my view, the most insidious of traitors." What did this President Bush say? He said he would fire anybody who might have been involved in doing such a thing.

Now what we are hearing is that the evidence is mounting that Karl Rove and others in the White House may have been involved in using classified information as part of a conspiracy for

political purposes, jeopardizing our national security. It is imperative that we know the facts. And how do we get to the facts? Not just wait for a special prosecutor, but Congress has the responsibility to hold hearings. Let us bring Rove here, put him under oath, and let him tell us what he has to say.

BRITS RESPOND WITH RESOLVE,
DETERMINATION

(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, July 7 in Britain is not the same as March 11 in Spain. Last week's terrorist attacks were met not with blame, self-loathing, and retreat. They were met with proper expressions of mourning, steely resolve, and clarion calls for justice. I would expect nothing else from the country that withstood the onslaught of the Nazis.

And while all of Great Britain mourns, our friends across the Atlantic should be commended for the face of resolve they have shown in recent days. This resolve was best expressed by London's mayor when he told the terrorists: "Whatever you do, however many you kill, you will fail."

If terrorists thought that the murder of innocent people would further their aims, they picked the wrong country to target. Giving terrorists safe haven in the name of tolerance only encourages the violent intolerance expressed most vividly in last week's attacks. These attacks again demonstrate the reason everyone needs to root out these barbarians.

A SOLDIER'S REFLECTIONS

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

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2005, U.S. Army Corporal Phillip Charles Edmondson of my home community of Wilson, North Carolina, became the first war casualty since Vietnam. I rise today to remember his bravery by reading a poem he wrote just prior to his death, "A Soldier's Reflections":

"I was that which others did not want to be.
I went where others feared to go
and did what others failed to do.
I asked nothing from those who gave nothing
and reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal
loneliness . . .
Should I fail, I have seen the face of terror;
felt the stinging cold of fear;
and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's
love.
I have cried, pained, and hoped . . .
But most of all, I have lived times others
would say
were best forgotten.
At least some day
I will be able to say that I was proud of what
I was . . . 'a soldier.'"

**STRONG RESOLVE IN THE FACE
OF TERRORISM**

(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, I conclude every floor speech with the reminder, "God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11," because I strongly believe that we must remember the lessons of that tragic day to protect American families.

After witnessing a handful of terrorists murder thousands of innocent Americans, our Nation immediately took action to defeat terrorism at home and abroad. Yesterday, I observed hundreds of terrorists now detained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and witnessed the tremendous progress our Nation is making in defending our freedom and defeating terrorism.

Last week's brutal attacks on the streets of London demonstrated that we must remain on the offensive against terrorists who seek to murder innocent civilians and destroy our way of life. Terrorists who believe they can break our will through cowardly attacks are mistaken. As President Bush said, "America will not retreat in the face of terrorists and murderers. And neither will the free world."

In conclusion, God bless our troops; we will never forget September 11 and London's July 7.

**ANNIVERSARY OF THE MEDAL OF
HONOR**

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

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to the Medal of Honor recipients and the values that the Medal of Honor symbolizes. On this date in 1862, President Abraham Lincoln approved the legislation that created the Medal of Honor, our Nation's highest military medal. The Medal of Honor is awarded for acts of valor and gallantry above and beyond the call of duty. In its 140-plus-year history, only 3,441 individuals have been awarded this distinguished medal; 121 of those individuals are still alive today.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to these brave individuals and to those men and women currently serving our Nation overseas. The Nation's highest award is facing a serious challenge to its meaning and symbol. I am outraged by the impostors who claim they have received this and other honors the military awards for deeds and actions of soldiers. These criminals not only dishonor themselves, but they dishonor the sacrifice that true recipients have made.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I plan to introduce the Stolen Valor Act of 2005 next week. This piece of legislation will make it easier for Federal law en-

forcement officials to prosecute phonies and impostors and restore the true meaning of these illustrious awards.

I hope my colleagues can join me in this effort to reclaim the meaning of honor and bravery and sacrifice in these United States.

RETURN TO FLIGHT

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

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I wish all the best for NASA and the crew of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* and the men and women of Kennedy Space Center on attempting to launch tomorrow. Those of us who support the program understand how critically important it is for the United States to have a continuing human presence in space.

After the loss of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* in February of 2003, we have not been able to launch our astronauts into space for almost 2½ years. With a successful launch tomorrow, we will once again show the world that our program and the dedicated people behind it are second to none and that our space shuttle fleet is unrivaled when it comes to technology and mission capability. This launch will be an important first step, a first step in the new vision for space exploration articulated by President Bush in January of 2004, a vision that is not only taking us back to low Earth orbit and the space station but that will lead us back to the Moon and one day on to Mars.

Again, I know I speak for all Americans when we wish the crew of *Discovery* God speed and a safe mission.

COLLAPSE OF A COVER-UP

(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, in the last 48 hours we have witnessed the sad collapse of a cover-up. On September 29, 2003, Press Secretary Scott McClellan said that he had spoken with the deputy chief of staff of the White House and it was simply not true that he had anything to do with the disclosure of the identity of a CIA agent. He characterized it as "totally ridiculous." And again on October 10, 2003, he said the White House had nothing to do with this terrible disclosure.

The President was then asked on June 10, 2004, whether he would stand by the promise to the American people to fire someone responsible for this disclosure, and he answered with a simple "yes."

The American people do not want sensitivity training after this sad disclosure of a CIA agent. They need full accountability. The jig is up. The deputy chief of staff needs to come in front of Congress and answer questions about this. And this is not just a matter of a simple violation of Federal law. It is a

sad violation of democracy to try to punish a truth-teller, Joe Wilson, who blew the whistle on the "yellow cake" false statement made by the President. We know that that is wrong because Mr. McClellan said this is not the way the White House operates. We beg to differ.

**URGING SUPPORT FOR THE 527
FAIRNESS 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, all of us remember the summer of 527s. Groups organized on the left and right under section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code spent nearly \$400 million in the midst of the Presidential campaigns while the Nation's two major political parties, its most respected labor unions, associations, businesses, and constitutional groups seemed to stand on the sideline in mute amazement.

In response to that summer of 527s, some here in Washington, D.C. want to exert even more regulation and control, and that is certainly their right to pursue. But the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) and I have a different approach. We believe that the only proper response to inequities in the political economy of a free society is more freedom, not less freedom.

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The Pence-Wynn bill is our effort to restore freedom and fairness to political parties and outside organizations, to give them the opportunity to compete more effectively with not only 527 organizations but their progeny that may arise if the Congress decides even yet to regulate them.

Thomas Jefferson said, "I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than those attending too small a degree of it."

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to consider the Pence-Wynn Freedom resolution.

REPUBLICAN PLAN TO MOVE SOCIAL SECURITY INSOLVENCY CLOSER

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, congressional Republicans have shown their hand once again. It is now clear that Republicans have no desire to strengthen Social Security for future generations. Instead, their only intentions are to privatize the guaranteed retirement program.

The Republicans' risky privatization scheme would create private accounts financed by diverting money out of Social Security. It does absolutely nothing to extend solvency of Social Security. In fact, the Republican proposal would actually move Social Security