

I appreciate your willingness to allow us to proceed. I will insert this exchange of letters into the Congressional Record during the debate of this bill.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, July 13, 2005.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman, Committee on International Relations, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HYDE: I am writing concerning H.R. 3100, the "East Asia Security Act of 2005," which is scheduled for floor consideration on Wednesday, July 13, 2005.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means has jurisdiction over matters concerning imports. One provision under Section 7 of H.R. 3100 may suspend the President's ability to use a license exemption or expedited procedure for licensing of the temporary importation of defense articles, and thus falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means. However, in order to expedite this legislation for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on this bill. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 3100, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration.

Best regards,

BILL THOMAS,
Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3100.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMEMORATING 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONCLUSION OF WAR IN THE PACIFIC AND HONORING VETERANS OF BOTH PACIFIC AND ATLANTIC THEATERS OF SECOND WORLD WAR

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 191) commemorating the 60th anniversary of the conclusion of the War in the Pacific and honoring veterans of both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters of the Second World War, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 191

Whereas on December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy, the United States was suddenly and deliberately attacked at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, resulting in the loss of over 2,400 American lives, the greatest such loss of life in a single attack before September 11, 2001;

Whereas the United States joined with allies from 32 countries to fight the common foe of fascist militarism in a war in which over 16,000,000 Americans served in the military;

Whereas the United States suffered over 670,000 casualties, with more than 400,000 deaths, while over 105,000 Americans were held as prisoners of war, many of whom were forced to participate in the infamous Bataan Death March or were forced to work on the construction of the Siam-Burma Railway;

Whereas two former Presidents, John F. Kennedy and George H. W. Bush, served with particular distinction and valor in the Pacific theater during the Second World War;

Whereas the sea battles of the Coral Sea, Midway, Leyte Gulf—the greatest naval battle in history—and Lingayen Gulf turned the tide of the war in the Pacific and led to ultimate victory;

Whereas the Sullivan family of Waterloo, Iowa, who lost five sons in a single morning when the USS Juneau was sunk in the Battle of Guadalcanal, came to symbolize for the United States the grief felt by American families over the loss of loved ones during the Second World War;

Whereas on May 14, 1943, the Australian hospital ship Centaur, in transit to New Guinea to pick up the wounded, was sunk fifty miles East-Northeast of Brisbane, Australia, resulting in 268 dead, representing the highest number of casualties of any merchant vessel sunk by a submarine in the Pacific theater;

Whereas General Douglas MacArthur fulfilled his promise of "I shall return" to the Philippine people by leading the successful campaign for the liberation of the Philippines, part of a wider campaign which freed much of Asia from militarist occupation;

Whereas more than 20,000 Japanese and 7,000 Americans died in the battle of Iwo Jima, which raged on the small island of Iwo Jima for over one month between February and March 1945, the fierceness of which was captured in the historic photo of five Marines and one Navy corpsman raising the American flag on Mount Suribachi;

Whereas the Battle of Okinawa, waged between April and June 1945, was the largest sea-land-air battle in history, with more than 38,000 Americans wounded and 12,000 killed or missing, more than 107,000 Japanese and Okinawan conscripts killed, and perhaps 100,000 Okinawan civilians who perished in the Battle;

Whereas millions of people died in Hawaii, Guam, the Coral Sea, Midway, the Marshall Islands, the Solomon Islands, Wake Island, Guadalcanal, Nanjing, Harbin, Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaya, Indonesia, Burma, Bataan, Corregidor, Manila, Luzon, Leyte Gulf, Lingayen Gulf, New Guinea, Korea, Saipan, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, Tokyo, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki;

Whereas the Second World War led to dramatic social changes in the United States as more than 19,500,000 women joined the American workforce at defense plants and 350,000 women joined the Armed Forces;

Whereas the roles of minorities in both the Armed Forces and industry were changed forever as greater opportunities for employment and service in the defense of the United States presented themselves;

Whereas Japanese-Americans, including Senator Daniel Inouye, served with courage and valor in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the most decorated regiment in United States military history;

Whereas the people of the United States and Japan worked together after the Second World War to reconstruct Japan and to ensure the post-War emergence of Japan as a beacon of democracy and economic liberalization in the Asia-Pacific region, and the United States and Japan further solidified the post-War security relationship by signing the Security Treaty of 1951 and the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security in 1960;

Whereas the sacrifices in the Pacific of United States veterans and veterans of United States allies during the Second World War led to the emergence of an Asian region where democratic institutions and free market economies have taken hold, contributing greatly to the peace and prosperity of the region; and

Whereas on May 29, 2004, the United States gratefully dedicated the World War II Memorial, honoring both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., with decorated World War II hero Senator Robert Dole giving the dedication speech: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) honors all veterans, living and deceased, of the Second World War in both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters on the 60th anniversary year of the War's conclusion and expresses the deep appreciation and gratitude of the United States for their valor and selfless service to their country;

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the final surrender of the Second World War aboard the USS Missouri as a day of remembrance and appreciation for the members of the greatest generation who, through their sacrifices both in the Armed Forces and on the homefront, preserved liberty for future generations and rescued the world from the scourge of fascist militarism;

(3) reaffirms the judgment in Tokyo rendered by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East of 1946–1948 and the conviction of certain individuals as war criminals for their crimes against humanity; and

(4) recognizes that the alliances formed in the Asia-Pacific region following the Second World War, including those with Australia, Japan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, and Thailand, have contributed immeasurably to the continued peace and prosperity enjoyed throughout the region.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 191.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this is the 60th anniversary of the final victory in one of the

greatest campaigns for the preservation of freedom in the history of the world. The heroic struggle of America's Greatest Generation and the peoples of the allied countries to defeat the scourge of Fascist militarism and liberate millions from its iron fist was the most monumental endeavor of the entire 20th century.

□ 1215

World leaders quite properly gathered in Moscow on May 9 to commemorate V-E Day, the 60th anniversary of the victory in Europe. We certainly join in honoring our heroic veterans of the D-Day landing and those of the entire Atlantic theater for their valiant efforts to liberate the people of Continental Europe, especially those trapped in death camps from Nazi tyranny.

We should well remember, however, that for the American people, the Second World War neither began nor ended in Europe. For our Nation, the war began on a quiet Sunday morning in Hawaii, when the U.S. was suddenly and deliberately attacked at Pearl Harbor. Over 2,400 lives were lost, including those buried in the sunken hull of the battleship USS *Arizona*. These dead represent the greatest number of American casualties in any such attack prior to September 11, 2001, another date which will live in infamy.

The war for America did not end on May 19 with the defeat of the axis powers in Europe. The battle for Okinawa, the largest sea-land air battle in history was largely fought after the surrender in Europe. It was not until General Douglas McArthur crossed the deck of the battleship *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay to accept the final surrender of Japan on September 2, 1945, that America and the world were finally at peace.

V-E Day had been the beginning of the end, but V-J Day was the final victory. I stand in strong support, therefore, for this concurrent resolution, which gives equal recognition to veterans of both the Pacific and Atlantic theatres as inscribed in the World War II Memorial which was dedicated last year on our National Mall.

This resolution calls upon generations of Americans who followed those who fought and died in this historic conflict to pause and give remembrance to the sacrifices of the greatest generation as the 60th anniversary of V-J Day approaches. The events of that war are slowly fading, and a distant memory, rekindled only in our national consciousness by readings in history textbooks or by clips from old war films, therefore we must assure, through commemorations like the one contained in this resolution that the sacrifices of the World War II generation are never diminished or never forgotten.

We here today should dedicate ourselves to preserving these memories, even as we stand once again to thank our World War II veterans for their sacrifice and their valor. As Americans re-

flect on the decades of unparalleled stability and prosperity following the aftermath of the Second World War, they may recall the words of the great British Scientist, Sir Isaac Newton who said, "If I have been able to see further, it was only because I stood on the shoulders of giants."

The blessings we enjoy today come from standing on the shoulders of those giants who fought, bled and died 6 decades ago so we might be free. And so to all those who fought, we owe an enormous debt of gratitude. Their legacy today is a peaceful and increasingly prosperous Asian Pacific region, where democratic institutions have taken root and market economies have flourished.

Their gift to us is an America which still stands as a beacon of liberty to the people of Asia who remember well the horrors inflicted by the coming of the Second World War.

With pride and boundless gratitude do we acknowledge the unpayable debt we all owe to veterans, who together with our allies and those on the home front, won the final victory which we commemorate today.

Mr. Speaker I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and rise in strong support of this concurrent resolution.

Mr. Speaker, in the context of this commemoration of what happened on the watery battlefields of the Pacific 60 years ago, I want to draw special attention to the actions of one of our most esteemed colleagues in this body, an esteem that is bound to grow once people know and understand the extent of his contributions to the allies' success in this crucial part of World War II.

Our distinguished colleague and my dear friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), now the respected chairman of the House International Relations Committee, back then was a young Naval officer facing the most important battle of his life.

On January 9, 1945, he piloted a landing craft into the Lingayen Gulf as part of a massive landing force hoping to establish a beachhead on the Philippine island of Luzon. His mission was to help liberate the people of the Philippines from Japanese control.

The liberation of the Philippines and the eventual victory of allied forces in the War in the Pacific now seems to have been predetermined. Yet it was anything but decided during this important moment in global history.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) survived the battle of Lingayen Gulf. For his exemplary service to his Nation, he was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal, and the Philippines Liberation Medal.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident to those of us who have had the privilege of working alongside him in the intervening years, that the gentleman from Illinois

(Mr. HYDE's) tenacity in battle extends to other forms of conflict.

But it is also clear that he is committed to bipartisan cooperation in the national interest whenever possible. He has remained loyal to the values that propelled him into public service.

Mr. Speaker, I have the greatest respect and admiration for the sacrifices of American soldiers, many of whom gave their lives in this epic battle against the forces of fascism and Japanese militarism. I owe my very life to the American military and to the troops of other allied countries which liberated Europe at enormous costs.

There are millions of citizens in the Asia-Pacific region, from the Philippines to Korea, who also owe their freedom to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the thousands of other brave Americans.

In many ways, Mr. Speaker, the victory over Japan was more of a beginning than an end. In the aftermath of World War II, the United States developed strong alliances across the Asia-Pacific region, which have only strengthened for the past 5 decades. The United States and Japan have developed a robust multifaceted relationship based on shared democratic values and mutual interests in Asian and global stability and development.

The strength of our relationship with Japan today and the relative peace of the Asia-Pacific region for over 50 years demonstrate the value of the sacrifices made by the brave American soldiers in the Pacific theater.

With the passage of our resolution, we commemorate these enormous contributions to peace, and we commit ourselves to remembering for all time those who made the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from California has been incredibly generous in his remarks, and I would like to comment on his history for the edification of our colleagues.

Hitler's forces occupied Hungary on March 19, 1944. Along with the Nazi invaders came the notorious Adolf Eichmann, with orders to exterminate the Jewish population of Hungary. A 16-year-old boy viewing these somber events decided he had to take a stand. He joined the Hungarian underground, a loose-knit group which was made up of small clusters of individuals.

Sent to a work camp to perform forced labor to maintain a railway bridge, this boy was the sole survivor of an allied bombing raid. "I was convinced I would not survive," the boy recalled. But fate had greater things in store for this young hero. Escaping from the camp, the young man made his way to Budapest where he joined Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg in his rescue operation to save much of the Jewish community of Hungary.

The young man ran operations for the underground carrying food and medicine through Nazi lines to Jews hiding throughout the city. After the war, the young man was reunited with his childhood friend, who was to become his wife, Annette. Together they immigrated to America to start a new life.

Fortunately for all of us on the International Relations Committee and in Congress and in America, that brave lad from Budapest is here with us today. After a distinguished academic career in California, the same determination which kept him alive at the bombed out railway bridge has now brought him to Congress, where he serves as the ranking Democratic member of the International Relations Committee.

For his courage in war, for his service in peace, especially here in Congress, I would like to express sincere and profound appreciation to my friend and colleague, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS.)

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, before yielding to my friend, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO), I just want to express my most profound gratitude to my friend, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), the distinguished chairman of our committee.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO).

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank my good friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for yielding me the time and giving me the opportunity to speak on the floor today on this issue.

December 7, 1941 would come to mark a historical pivot point for both America and the world. Two days later, the Chamorros people of Guam would also begin a dark and somber time. Over the next 31 months, residents were turned into refugees. Men, women, and children were massacred, an entire island enslaved.

An estimated 700 Chamorro people perished over these years of occupation. On July 21, 1944, American troops once again touched the shores of Guam, ending the oppressive occupation.

□ 1230

Liberation meant a restoration of faith and future to the Chamorros as they sought to reconstruct their island and their lives. The scars of battle still resonate, yet the lingering message of history will never fade 61 years later.

I stand to honor those who fought to liberate our people and to honor the resiliency displayed by the Chamorro people in such formidable times. Just yesterday we went to Arlington to lay a wreath to honor those who perished. And tonight in the Cannon Caucus Room we invite the entire membership of the U.S. Congress and their staff and friends to come and join us in a liberation celebration beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMMONS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 191.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN LONDON, ENGLAND ON JULY 7, 2005

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 356) condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in London, England, on July 7, 2005.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 356

Whereas, on July 7, 2005, a series of explosions on public transportation facilities in London, England, resulted in the death of scores of civilians and the injury of hundreds of others;

Whereas the explosions had been planned and carried out by terrorists;

Whereas British first responders reacted swiftly and heroically to save and assist civilian victims;

Whereas the people of London and of the United Kingdom have a history of bravery and resolve in the face of terrorism and war;

Whereas the people and Government of the United Kingdom have been engaged in common efforts with the people and Government of the United States in every front in the Global War on Terrorism and in other efforts to assure a safer and more secure world;

Whereas the people and Government of the United Kingdom have been making heroic sacrifices in Afghanistan, in Iraq, and in the ongoing "shadow war" against terrorists around the world; and

Whereas President George W. Bush, then present in Gleneagles, Scotland, with other world leaders, expressed the solidarity of the people and Government of the United States with the people and Government of the United Kingdom: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in London, England, on July 7, 2005;

(2) expresses its condolences to the families and friends of those individuals who were killed in the attacks and expresses its sympathies to those individuals who have been injured;

(3) joins with President George W. Bush in expressing the solidarity of the people and Government of the United States with the people and Government of the United Kingdom as the recovery continues from these cowardly and inhuman attacks; and

(4) expresses its readiness to provide any necessary assistance to the United Kingdom authorities and to devote the necessary resources to bring to justice those individuals responsible for the London attacks, and to pursue, disrupt, undermine, and dismantle the networks which plan and carry out such attacks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 356.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Americans were shocked and dismayed but not necessarily surprised when terror struck at the heart of the capital of the United Kingdom, the cradle of Western liberty, on July 7, 2005.

It is too easy while we are preoccupied with celebrating our independence from Britain in early July to lose sight of what we owe Britain, our language and our culture, the notion of the rule of law and the separation of powers, our common law legal system, and the underpinnings of our economic system, to name a few examples.

The British have been at our side and we at theirs in the struggles against tyranny that preoccupied us throughout most of the 20th century and now in the struggle against the nihilistic terror that has marked the 21st century and in our efforts to bring freedom to Iraq.

So it came as no real surprise to find that those who hate us hate the British too and acted on that hate.

The British have always impressed the world with their courage, their resilience, recalling the days of the blitz.

Today, Britain is different than the Britain of the Second World War. Its streets are filled with people from all over the world who are making their homes in what is like ours, a land of opportunity where newcomers are integrated into society with remarkable success. Today's Londoners showed themselves to be just as brave and determined as the Londoners of the past.

President Bush made us all proud when he so forthrightly and eloquently supported Prime Minister Blair and pledged his people and government our full support. Today with this resolution, our House adds its voice to his.

We and the British people are bound by ties that terror cannot loosen or fray. We will not be satisfied until we have done what we as Americans can to bring the perpetrators of this attack to