

H. RES. 355

Whereas Walter Elias Disney, an imaginative visionary who changed the face of American culture, was born in 1901;

Whereas in the summer of 1923, Walt Disney independently produced a cartoon called Alice's Wonderland, and he decided that he could use it as his "pilot" film to sell a series of Alice comedies to a distributor;

Whereas Walt Disney's primary cartoon character, Mickey Mouse, has delighted millions of children and adults around the world since his debut in 1928;

Whereas Walt Disney personally won 32 Academy Awards for his work, including a special award for the creation of Mickey Mouse, a special award for Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, and the prestigious Irving Thalberg Memorial Award given by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences;

Whereas Walt Disney introduced the world to his special brand of entertainment at the 1964-1965 New York World's Fair, which incorporated four Disney shows, including Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln, a tribute to the 16th President of the United States;

Whereas Walt Disney's original vision of a place for children and adults to have fun together was inspired by his two daughters;

Whereas Walt Disney's "dream of a place where parents and children could have fun together", became a reality with the opening of Disneyland in Anaheim, California, and subsequently in the opening of additional theme parks, cruise lines, and resorts worldwide;

Whereas when Walt Disney formally dedicated Disneyland on July 17, 1955, he stated that he hoped the park would be "... a source of joy and inspiration to all the world";

Whereas Walt Disney hosted dignitaries at Disneyland, including Presidents Harry Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, and Richard Nixon, and his legacy of hospitality has extended to Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, and George H. W. Bush;

Whereas 2005 is the 50th anniversary of Disneyland;

Whereas Walt Disney's dream has launched an industry and sparked an empire of fun that now spans the globe, attracting millions of visitors on three continents every year; and

Whereas the Walt Disney Foundation strives to promote discourse, writing, and scholarship about the life, work, and philosophy of Walt Disney: Now, therefore, be it

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment to the preamble be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment to the preamble offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS).

The amendment to the preamble was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VETERANS HEALTH CARE

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

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, it has now been 14 days since this House could have sent to the President a \$1.5 billion emergency spending bill to solve the health care crisis facing America's veterans. Unfortunately, the House leadership chose not to support the bill that passed unanimously on a bipartisan basis by the Senate 2 weeks ago. Unfortunately, to compound that error, the leadership, I guess, decided a vacation for House Members tomorrow was more important than resolving this serious health care crisis, where today as we speak there are veterans not getting the care they deserve because of the shortfall of funding.

To add insult to injury, the White House budget director just said a few minutes ago to the Budget Committee that VA funding over the last 3 years has actually been too much. So the White House budget director is saying we funded too much for veterans health care over the last 3 years. I think veterans across America are going to be outraged that that is the position of this administration.

We are facing a crisis today because we have underfunded VA health care. We should correct it before Congress takes one more day of recess or vacation.

NEW YORK TIMES REPORTER REMAINS JAILED

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Five days and counting, Mr. Speaker, and the only one in jail today on the issue of a cover-up is Judith Miller, a reporter with integrity at the New York Times. I am well aware of the fact that there is an ongoing investigation. But truth has an uncanny ability of opening the doors and clarifying and, as well, providing justice.

Judith Miller believes in the first amendment. She also believes in the right to protect sources. I want the truth on who exposed the undercover CIA agent, a woman. But I believe it is patently unfair because of the lack of a shield law that Judith Miller still stands in jail. In essence, I consider her a political prisoner, and I think it is appropriate for the United States Congress to stand up and defend Judith Miller, as she should be released.

The investigation should proceed. The truth should be known. But those who know the truth need to come up and own to the truth so that Judith Miller, a reporter who tries to tell the truth, can be free.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 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.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my Special Order at this time.

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

There was no objection.

SUICIDE TERRORISM

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

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, more than half of the American people now believe that the Iraqi war has made the U.S. less safe. This is a dramatic shift in sentiment from 2 years ago. Early support for the war reflected a hope for a safer America, and it was thought to be an appropriate response to the 9/11 attacks. This argument was that the enemy attacked us for our defense of freedom, our prosperity, and our way of life. It was further argued that it was important to engage the potential terrorists over there rather than here. Many bought this argument and supported the war. That is now changing.

It is virtually impossible to stop determined suicide bombers. Understanding why they sacrifice themselves is crucial to ending what appears to be senseless and irrational. But there is an explanation.

I, like many, have assumed that the driving force behind the suicide attacks was Islamic fundamentalism. Promise of instant entry into paradise as a reward for killing infidels seemed to explain the suicides, a concept that is foreign to our way of thinking. The world's expert on suicide terrorism has convinced me to rethink this simplistic explanation that it is merely an expression of religious extremism and resentment of a foreign culture.

Robert Pape, author of "Dying to Win," explains the strategic logic of suicide terrorism. Pape has collected a database of every suicide terrorist attack between 1980 and 2004, all 462 of them. His conclusions are enlightening and crucial to our understanding the true motivation behind the attacks against Western nations by Islamic terrorists. After his exhaustive study, Pape comes to some very important conclusions.

Religious beliefs are less important than supposed. For instance, the Tamil Tigers in Sri Lanka, a Marxist secular group, are the world's leader in suicide terrorism. The largest Islamic fundamentalist countries have not been responsible for any suicide terrorist attack. None have come from Iran or the

Sudan. Until the U.S. invasion of Iraq, Iraq never had a suicide terrorist attack in all of its history. Between 1995 and 2004, the al Qaeda years, two-thirds of all attacks came from countries where the U.S. had troops stationed. Iraq's suicide missions today are carried out by Iraqi Sunnis and Saudis. Recall, 15 of the 19 participants of the 9/11 attacks were Saudis.

The clincher is this: the strongest motivation, according to Pape, is not religious but rather a desire "to compel modern democracies to withdraw military forces from the territory the terrorists view as their homeland."

The best news is that if stopping suicide terrorism is a goal we seek, a solution is available to us. Cease the occupation of foreign lands and the suicide missions will cease. Between 1982 and 1986, there were 41 suicide terrorist attacks in Lebanon. Once the U.S., the French, and Israel withdrew their forces from Lebanon, there were no more attacks. The reason the attacks stop, according to Pape, is that the Osama bin Ladens of the world no longer can inspire potential suicide terrorists despite their continued fanatical religious beliefs.

Pape is convinced after his extensive research that the longer and more extensive the occupation of Muslim territories, the greater the chance of more 9/11-type attacks on the U.S. He is convinced that the terrorists strategically are holding off hitting the U.S. at the present time in an effort to break up the coalition by hitting our European allies. He claims it is just a matter of time if our policies do not change.

It is time for us to consider a strategic reassessment of our policy of foreign interventionism, occupation, and nation-building. It is in our national interest to do so and in the interest of world peace.

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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.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my Special Order at this time.

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

There was no objection.

WITHDRAWAL FROM GAZA

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

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2000, President Clinton con-

vened a summit at Camp David with then Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Yasser Arafat to seek a breakthrough in the peace process that had been moving forward in fits and starts since the signing of the Oslo Accords 7 years earlier.

As we all know, those talks ultimately broke down, despite the parties' being tantalizingly close to resolving many of the thorniest issues precluding a final status agreement between Israel and the Palestinians. Rather than build on the considerable progress that had been made at Camp David, Arafat unleashed a second intifada against Israel, a wave of terror that has lasted for nearly 5 years and cost thousands of lives.

Now, in just over a month, the Israeli government will begin the dismantlement and withdrawal of all 21 of its settlements in Gaza and four other settlements in the northern West Bank in a bold move designed to increase the prospects for bringing peace to both Israelis and Palestinians.

The decision to evacuate Gaza and part of the West Bank is the result of many months of agonizing debate within Israel. On the one hand, there are those who see any pullback by Israel without security guarantees or other tangible steps by the Palestinian Authority as a sign of weakness. The upcoming withdrawal, these Israelis say, will be cast by Hamas and other hardline Palestinian factions as a victory in much the same way that Israel's decision to withdraw its forces from Lebanon in May of 2000 allowed Hezbollah to proclaim itself the champion of the Arab fight against Israel. Other Israelis, led by Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, who was the architect of Israel's settlement policy after the 1967 Six Day War, have successfully argued that the disengagement will bolster Israel's security, that it represents Israel's seizing the initiative to alter the status quo with the Palestinians, and that it allows Israel to get its own lines of defense and that it will preempt toxic diplomatic initiatives by Arab and European states.

Ehud Olmert, the Likud mayor of Jerusalem, has also repeatedly discussed the importance of Israel's demographic security. The Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza is a fast-growing population that will soon be larger than that of Israel proper. For Israel to maintain a permanent presence in the territories would require the sacrifice of either Israel's status as a Jewish state or as a democracy.

For those of us who care deeply about Israel, Sharon and Olmert have laid out convincing reasons to support the disengagement plan while the opponents' arguments compel us to work with both Israel and the Palestinians to ensure that the evacuation is peaceful and that Hamas and other rejectionist elements are not in a position to take advantage of Israel's courage in seeking to change the dynamics on the ground.

I believe that the United States must be prepared to take a number of steps to make sure that this withdrawal enhances the chances for a lasting peace and puts the parties squarely back on the path towards realizing the President's roadmap for peace.

As a threshold matter, we must be prepared to help Israel absorb the economic costs associated with the dismantlement of the settlements and the resettlement of the approximately 8,000 Jewish settlers within Israel proper. Earlier this week, the Israeli government made an initial request for \$2.2 billion in assistance from the administration. I understand that the administration is studying the request, but we must be prepared to consider any eventual request quickly at the appropriate time.

We also have to work with other nations, members of the Quartet as well as others, to assist the Palestinian people and the government of Mahmoud Abbas to improve the lives of ordinary Palestinians in the wake of the withdrawal. Offering an alternative to destitution and death is one of the most effective tools we have to break the cycle of violence.

The U.S. has already pledged \$350 million in aid to the Palestinians, including \$200 million that was passed earlier this spring. I was pleased to see that our G-8 partners have pledged additional funds, totaling \$3 billion, at last week's Gleneagles summit. We must insist upon accountability to ensure these are properly spent alleviating poverty, providing employment, and developing institutions that respect the rule of law.

The U.S. must also redouble its efforts to choke off the flow of assistance to Hamas, the popular front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, Palestinian Islamic jihad, and other factions that oppose peace with Israel. Syria is a major focus of support for these groups and for Hezbollah, which is in Lebanon. Damascus must be made to understand that there is a price for its support of terrorism and that that price will only increase if it refuses to end that support.

Finally, we must also work to build peace between Israel and the Arab states of the Middle East. While Israel has peace treaties with both Egypt and Jordan, relations are not especially warm, and most of the rest of the Arab world remains in a technical state of war with Israel. We need to press our Arab friends to work towards a comprehensive peace with the Jewish state.

Mr. Speaker, we are at a remarkable moment in the search for peace in the Middle East, but the chance to build on Israel's decision to leave Gaza and the stirrings of democracy in the Arab world must not be allowed to slip away.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Miss MCMORRIS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.