

Marchant	Pearce	Slaughter
Markey	Pelosi	Smith (NJ)
Marshall	Pence	Smith (TX)
Matheson	Peterson (MN)	Smith (WA)
McCarthy	Peterson (PA)	Snyder
McCaul (TX)	Petri	Sodrel
McCollum (MN)	Pickering	Solis
McCotter	Pitts	Souder
McCrery	Platts	Spratt
McDermott	Poe	Stark
McGovern	Pombo	Stearns
McHenry	Pomeroy	Strickland
McHugh	Porter	Sullivan
McKeon	Portman	Sweeney
McKinney	Price (GA)	Tancredo
McMorris	Price (NC)	Tanner
McNulty	Pryce (OH)	Tauscher
Meehan	Putnam	Taylor (MS)
Meek (FL)	Rahall	Terry
Meeks (NY)	Ramstad	Thomas
Melancon	Regula	Thompson (CA)
Menendez	Rehberg	Thompson (MS)
Mica	Renzi	Thornberry
Michaud	Reyes	Tiahrt
Millender-	Reynolds	Tiberi
McDonald	Rogers (AL)	Tierney
Miller (FL)	Rogers (KY)	Towns
Miller (MI)	Rogers (MI)	Turner
Miller (NC)	Rohrabacher	Udall (CO)
Miller, Gary	Ros-Lehtinen	Udall (NM)
Miller, George	Ross	Upton
Moore (KS)	Rothman	Van Hollen
Moore (WI)	Roybal-Allard	Royce
Moran (KS)	Royce	Rush
Moran (VA)	Rush	Visclosky
Murphy	Ryan (OH)	Walden (OR)
Murtha	Ryan (WI)	Walsh
Musgrave	Ryun (KS)	Wamp
Myrick	Salazar	Wasserman
Nadler	Sánchez, Linda	Schultz
Napolitano	T.	Watson
Neal (MA)	Saxton	Watt
Neugebauer	Schakowsky	Waxman
Ney	Schiff	Weiner
Northup	Schwartz (PA)	Weldon (FL)
Norwood	Schwarz (MI)	Weldon (PA)
Nunes	Scott (GA)	Weller
Nussle	Scott (VA)	Westmoreland
Oberstar	Sensenbrenner	Wexler
Obey	Serrano	Whitfield
Olver	Sessions	Wicker
Ortiz	Shadegg	Wilson (NM)
Osborne	Shaw	Wilson (SC)
Otter	Shays	Wolf
Owens	Sherman	Woolsey
Oxley	Sherwood	Wu
Pallone	Shimkus	Wynn
Pastor	Shuster	Young (AK)
Paul	Simmons	Young (FL)
Payne	Simpson	

NOT VOTING—24

Baker	Kind	Ruppersberger
Boehner	Kirk	Sabo
Capito	McIntyre	Sánchez, Loretta
Eshoo	Mollohan	Sanders
Farr	Pascarell	Skelton
Feeney	Radanovich	Stupak
Gallely	Rangel	Taylor (NC)
Kaptur	Reichert	Waters

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised that 2 minutes remain in the vote.

□ 1357

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: "A resolution condemning the terrorist bombing attack that occurred on February 14, 2005, in Beirut, Lebanon, that killed former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and killed and wounded others."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 17, 2005, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 39, "yes" (H. Res. 91).

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on February 17, 2005 due to the funeral of a close friend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on Rollcall No. 38.

PERMISSION FOR COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION TO HAVE UNTIL MIDNIGHT, FEBRUARY 24, 2005 TO FILE REPORT ON H.R. 841

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on House Administration have until midnight, Thursday, February 24, 2005, to file a report to accompany H.R. 841.

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

There was no objection.

CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2005

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 21, 2005, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in House Concurrent Resolution 66, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2005

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, March 2, 2005.

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

There was no objection.

HONORING THE SOLDIERS OF THE ARMY'S BLACK CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 67) honoring the soldiers of the Army's Black Corps of Engineers for their contributions in constructing the Alaska-Canada highway during World War II and recognizing the importance of these contributions to the subsequent integration of the military, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, however, I do not intend to object, I yield to the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) for an explanation of the resolution.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I yield to the gentleman from Alaska.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON) for introducing this resolution.

This resolution honors the soldiers of the Army's Black Corps of Engineers for their contribution in construction of the Alaska-Canada Highway during World War II.

There is no doubt about the enormous contribution made by these soldiers and the lasting legacy they left to Alaska and the security of our Nation.

This is long overdue and I strongly support the gentlewoman's resolution and appreciate her efforts.

Mr. Speaker, may I suggest somebody should read the great story of this Corps of Engineers brigade and what they were able to do, the work they put in, the time they put in, and the excellent job they did in building a highway of approximately 1,400 miles in less than 365 days of a year.

Again, I commend the gentlewoman for introducing this resolution. It is long overdue. And for those who do not understand this, drive this highway someday and you will understand the work they put in.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Further reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk a little bit about the legislation that we are considering. The construction of the Alaska-Canada Highway from Dawson Creek, Canada to Fairbanks, Alaska in 1942 was heralded as one of America's greatest public works projects of the 20th century.

The emergency war measure, made necessary by the bombing of Pearl Harbor, was authorized by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on February 11, 1942. The construction of the 1,522 mile long road through rugged unmapped wilderness and extreme temperatures ranging between 80 degrees below and 90 degrees above zero was completed in an astonishing 8 months and 12 days. Upon completion, the road was the only overland route that strategically linked Alaska and the lower 48 States and facilitated the construction of airstrips for refueling planes and vital supply routes during World War II.

Critical to the construction of the Alaska-Canada Highway were the men of the 93rd, 95th, and 97th regiments, in addition to the 388th battalion of the Army Corps of Engineers. Segregated by race and seldom recognized, members of the Black Corps of Engineers

comprised over one-third of the total troop strength in this project.

In spite of severe racially discriminatory policies and detestable living and social conditions, the soldiers of the Black Corps of Engineers performed notably and unselfishly on this project.

□ 1400

Regretfully, since 1942, their contributions toward this country's Western defense during World War II and subsequent integration of the military have been excluded from many of the footnotes of history; but this being the last day we can make presentations during Black History Month, I am delighted and thankful that the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) knew about them and is cosponsoring this resolution.

It is with great pride and honor that I, with the cosponsorship of the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this group of soldiers whose works have existed in the shadows of the Nation's history since 1942, the Army's Black Corps of Engineers; and the Congressional Black Caucus joins me in supporting this. Let me thank again the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

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

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 67

Whereas the bombing of Pearl Harbor necessitated constructing an overland route between Alaska and the lower 48 States for military purposes;

Whereas on February 11, 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt authorized the construction of the Alaska-Canada Highway (also known as the "Alcan Highway");

Whereas construction of the Alcan Highway, a 1,522-mile long road from Dawson Creek, Canada, to Fairbanks, Alaska, was an engineering feat of enormous challenge;

Whereas the Alcan Highway was constructed by approximately 10,000 United States troops through rugged, unmapped wilderness and extreme temperatures, ranging from 80-degrees-below to 90-degrees-above zero;

Whereas the Corps of Engineers units assigned to construct the Alcan Highway were segregated by race;

Whereas the 93rd, 95th, and 97th Regiments and 388th Battalion of the Corps of Engineers, part of a group known as the "Black Corps of Engineers", were African American units assigned to the Alcan Highway project, and these units comprised one-third of the total engineering workforce on the project;

Whereas despite severe discriminatory policies, and abominable living and social conditions, the soldiers of the Black Corps of Engineers performed notably and unselfishly on the project;

Whereas on November 20, 1942, the Alcan Highway was completed in an astonishing 8 months and 12 days, becoming one of the Nation's greatest public works projects in the 20th century;

Whereas the Alcan Highway became the only land route that strategically linked the

northern territory to the remainder of the continental United States and facilitated the construction of airstrips for refueling planes and vital supply routes during World War II;

Whereas although considerable praise was bestowed upon soldiers for exemplary work in constructing the Alcan Highway, the soldiers of the Black Corps of Engineers were seldom recognized; and

Whereas despite enduring indignities and double standards, the soldiers of the Black Corps of Engineers contributed unselfishly to the western defense in World War II and these contributions helped lead to the subsequent integration of the military: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress honors the soldiers of the Army's Black Corps of Engineers for their contributions in constructing the Alaska-Canada highway during World War II and recognizes the importance of these contributions to the subsequent integration of the military.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. TOM DAVIS OF VIRGINIA TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH MARCH 1, 2005

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

February 17, 2005.

I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM DAVIS to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through March 1, 2005.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3003 note, and the order of the House of January 4, 2005, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe:

Mr. CARDIN, Maryland;

Ms. SLAUGHTER, New York;

Mr. HASTINGS, Florida;

Mr. MCINTYRE, North Carolina.

REINING IN THE COST OF MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG ENTITLEMENT

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

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. Speaker, last week we heard projections that the prescription drug benefit is going to be far more expensive than we figured. Now, many of us never believed that it would cost just \$400 million, and the fact that it is much higher than that is not surprising at all.

I would encourage the President and our leadership to work with us to be able to rein in this monster that we have created.

Over a period of 75 years, the initial estimates were that this would add \$7 trillion in unfunded liabilities. I should point out that every dime to pay for this new benefit is borrowed. Therefore, every dime will be paid for by our kids and our grandkids.

It is time to get the bridle on the horse before the horse leaves the barn, and we need to work now, before this benefit starts next year, to make sure that we can reign in the costs.

Mr. Speaker, last week the White House released budget projections that show that the cost of the prescription drug benefit that Congress added to Medicare last year could balloon to \$1.2 trillion over the next ten years. The initial price estimate of the new entitlement was \$400 billion.

Frankly, the initial estimate of \$400 billion was more than many of us could stomach, but we knew that \$400 billion was a lowball estimate and the real cost was sure to be higher. Having said that, it gives none of us pleasure to say "see, we told you so."

When President Bush first proposed the new prescription drug benefit, it was targeted and means-tested for low-income seniors who did not currently have prescription drug coverage. President Bush's plan also coupled the new benefit with some needed reforms of the Medicare program.

It should come as no surprise that by the time Congress was done with the package, it looked nothing like the President's proposal. Congress expanded coverage to all seniors and yanked the reforms that would have helped curb future costs from the bill.

What does come as a surprise is President Bush's recent threat to veto any attempt by Congress to go back and fix our mistake.

Shortly after Congress passed the new prescription drug entitlement, and the initial cost estimate was already going up, I introduced a bill that would cap the cost of the program at the initial estimate of \$400 billion. If the cost overran the estimate, my bill would have required Congress to offset the difference or scale back the entitlement.

I plan to reintroduce that legislation shortly, and I urge Congress to take it up quickly. Whether or not Congress acts on this specific piece of legislation, we need to begin talking about ways to control the monster we created.

President Bush sent over a budget to Congress a couple of weeks ago that proposed cutting or killing over 150 programs. Of course, Members of Congress immediately began maneuvering to make sure that their pet projects did not get the axe. I think the President is on the right track by trying to pare back congressional spending and I will certainly be doing what I can to help him in that effort. However, the truth is that, compared to federal mandatory spending on entitlement programs like Medicare, Medicaid, and Social