

and a special Nation and our men and women who are serving us in Iraq are special to us, to all of us.

The article that I alluded to earlier and mentioned the name of Private Clausen, I would like to quote from other soldiers who are in Baghdad currently who are fighting, are in the combat, and their observations, and I would encourage my colleagues on both sides to listen to their words. They get it. They understand. They know what is happening on the ground. They know the reality of Iraq.

Lieutenant Antonio Hardy. These are his words:

"To be honest, it's going to be like this for a long time to come, no matter what we do. I think some people in America don't want to know about all this violence, about all the killings. The people back home are shielded from it. They get it sugar-coated."

Sergeant Herbert Gill:

"What is victory supposed to look like? Every time we turn around and go into a new area, there's somebody waiting to kill us. Once more raids start happening, they'll melt away. And then 2 or 3 months later, when we leave and we say it's a success, they'll come back."

Our troops get it.

I referred earlier to Private Zack Clausen. Let me repeat his words: "We can get into a firefight and empty our ammo, but it doesn't accomplish much. This is not our war—we're in the middle."

Listen to these voices. These are not the voices that come and appear before us in congressional hearings. These are our brothers, our children, our sons, our daughters that are serving every day in Baghdad. Let's listen to the troops.

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a profound debt of gratitude for our men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Our brave soldiers are remarkable. They find themselves in a foreign land with regional conflicts that date back over a thousand years. However, they don't run and hide. They fight. They risk their lives helping to encourage and teach the Iraqis to take over their own destiny.

Our Nation's sons and daughters deserve nothing short of unconditional gratitude and support from their government and the American people. As long as I am in Congress, our soldiers will have an ally.

As a veteran, and a father, I will always fight to protect those who defend their country. I will fight for equipment and supplies. I will fight for their safety and protection. I will make sure they return home to their loved ones as quickly as possible. And I pledge they will NOT be forgotten once they return home.

But I will not support sending over 20,000 more young men and women into a fight without a plan to win and get them home. We cannot send more Americans into harm's way to instill a peace that the Iraqis are not willing to seek for themselves.

The solutions now are political not military. The Iraq Study Group urged the president to pursue a diplomatic solution alongside our military efforts.

But this president has decided to ignore the diplomatic side of the equation. This adminis-

tration has squandered their credibility by losing billions in reconstruction funds, failing to adequately equip our troops, and failing to develop a clear plan for reconstruction in Iraq.

It is time for the Iraqi people to stand up and for the United States to begin a phased redeployment to protect American interests and take our troops out of the direct line of fire.

In closing, this war has created a new generation of veterans with new disabilities not seen in past wars. Adding insult to injury, the president's recent budget proposal lacks adequate funding for our veterans returning home. Researching post-traumatic stress disorder, improving suicide prevention, and providing adequate funding for prosthetics are crucial budget needs to serve our new veterans.

On a recent trip to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, I met with several of our wounded soldiers. I pledge to them—and to all our men and women in uniform—that your country will take care of you. And I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in fervent support of the brave men and women of our Armed Forces currently serving in Iraq. While American soldiers and Marines courageously risk their lives to confront a determined enemy in Iraq, the Democrat leadership in Congress offers this resolution. The spineless resolution under consideration would undermine our military commanders' plan for victory in this ongoing struggle.

This act of political posturing strikes me as inconsistent with pledges of support for our troops. We cannot simultaneously claim to support the troops while calling into question the validity of their mission. The question, Madam Speaker, quite simply, is this: to fund or not to fund. If this Congress intends to provide our service men and women with the funds they need to achieve their mission, and we must, it follows that funding ought to go hand-in-hand with resolute commitment in support of their current mission.

If not this plan, what plan? Before you answer that, recognize that Congress is not, and has never been, tasked with administering a war. No successful war in the history of mankind has ever been managed by the legislative branch of any government. And no credible alternative for victory in Iraq has emerged from any member of this institution.

I find it curious that not a single Senator opposed the confirmation of General Petraeus as Commanding General of our troops in Iraq. General Petraeus is the coauthor of the Army's new official counterinsurgency doctrine that this resolution seeks to undermine. Yet, only weeks later, this body seeks to pull the rug out from under General Petraeus through this resolution. Such political posturing is shameful, but unfortunately it is anything but petty, as the consequences could be deadly.

Members of Congress may be able to convince themselves of all sorts of contradictory positions and logical inconsistencies through double-speak, but our service members know weakness when they see it. Thank God our troops are men and women of resolve and integrity. If you want to endanger even more Americans in the field and usher in an American defeat in Iraq, the surest way to do so is to demonstrate a lack of commitment from this House, and therein embolden the enemies our troops are battling right now.

I don't believe that's what anybody in this body wants, so I urge my colleagues to con-

sider the consequences of support for this ill-conceived resolution. This is a time of war, one that is not of our choosing. Militant Islamists have been at war with America for decades, and they have grown more dangerous each year, as we tragically learned a little more than five years ago.

With overwhelming bipartisan determination, we voted to authorize military action in Iraq in 2002. Retreat from our current mission would communicate to Al Qaeda and jihadists around the world that the United States is fainthearted, and we could expect more horrific attacks on American soil than we saw on 9/11.

Let me be clear—I am troubled by the last year's increased level of violence in Iraq; we all are. But this resolution can only exacerbate the problem. Our service men and women deserve better from us. And we, Madam Speaker, regardless of party, are better than this.

May God bless our troops.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 157, further proceedings on the concurrent resolution will be postponed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. WELCH of Vermont (during consideration of H. Con. Res. 63) from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110-13) on the resolution (H. Res. 161) providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CRAMER (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for February 13, on account of a death in the family.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Member (at the request of Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GINGREY, for 5 minutes, February 16.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mrs. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a joint resolution of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.J. Res. 20. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 159, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. today, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD.

Thereupon (at 12 o'clock and 1 minute a.m.), pursuant to House Resolution 159, the House adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable CHARLIE NORWOOD until today, Thursday, February 15, 2007, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

602. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Deposit Insurance Assessments—Designated Reserve Ratio (RIN: 3064-AD02) — received December 29, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

603. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Assessments (RIN: 3064-AD03) — received December 29, 2006, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

604. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — General rule for taxable year of deduction (Rev. Rul. 2007-3) received January 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

605. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Classification of Certain Foreign Entities [Notice 2007-10] received January 7, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

606. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Closing agreements (Rev. Proc. 2007-17) received January 3, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ARCURI: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 161. Resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 110-13). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. WAXMAN (for himself, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. EMANUEL, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 1038. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the licensing of comparable and interchangeable bio-

logical products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. LUCAS, Ms. FALLIN, and Mr. BOREN):

H.R. 1039. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study regarding the suitability and feasibility of designating the John Hope Franklin Greenwood Memorial/Museum of Reconciliation and other sites in Tulsa, Oklahoma, relating to the 1921 Tulsa race riot as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURGESS (for himself, Mrs. DRAKE, and Mrs. MYRICK):

H.R. 1040. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide taxpayers a flat tax alternative to the current income tax system; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, and Mr. DELAHUNT):

H.R. 1041. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide an enhanced funding process to ensure an adequate level of funding for veterans health care programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to establish standards of access to care for veterans seeking health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HENSARLING:

H.R. 1042. A bill to extend trade promotion authority; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. JONES of Ohio (for herself,

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. TURNER, Mr. HOLT, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. PAUL, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROSS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. HERSETH, Ms. CARSON, and Mr. FILNER):

H.R. 1043. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rehabilitation credit and the low-income housing credit; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BAKER (for himself, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. MCCRERY, and Mr. JINDAL):

H.R. 1044. A bill to improve the disaster loan program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. BOSWELL (for himself and Mr. REGULA):

H.R. 1045. A bill to designate the Federal building located at 210 Walnut Street in Des Moines, Iowa, as the "Neal Smith Federal Building"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 1046. A bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to mod-

ernize the quality improvement organization (QIO) program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLAY:

H.R. 1047. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Soldiers' Memorial Military Museum located in St. Louis, Missouri, as a unit of the National Park System; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. FERGUSON:

H.R. 1048. A bill to establish a program to transfer surplus computers of Federal agencies to schools, nonprofit community-based educational organizations, and families of members of the Armed Forces who are deployed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey (for

himself, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. PAUL, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. CARTER, Mr. GOODE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. AKIN, Mr. ROYCE, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER):

H.R. 1049. A bill to reduce the unintended costs and burdens that the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 imposes on United States businesses, while maintaining that Act's goals of bolstering confidence in the integrity of publicly held companies; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. LEE:

H.R. 1050. A bill to establish a living wage, jobs for all policy for all peoples in the United States and its territories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, Armed Services, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HOLT (for himself, Mr. REGULA,

Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. BIGGERT, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WOLF, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. STARK, and Ms. SUTTON):

H.R. 1051. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish and maintain a public website through which individuals may find a complete database of available scholarships, fellowships, and other programs of financial assistance in the study of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. JEFFERSON (for himself, Mr.

MELANCON, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. CLAY, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. WATT, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WYNN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mrs. CHRISTENSEN):

H.R. 1052. A bill to provide an option to proceed with an action in any Federal court to recover actual damages for physical or property damage in a major disaster that proximately results from the failure or negligence of the Army Corps of Engineers in