

sworn enemies in what can only be called “amateur hour” at the White House. Now, it looks as if the Bush administration is heading down a similar path and, given its previous “amateur hour” reputation in foreign policy, imagine what this is likely to mean.

Jihadis as proxies: Using jihadis as U.S. proxies in a struggle to roll back Iran—with the help of the Saudis—should have rung a few bells somewhere in U.S. memory as another been-there, done-that moment. In the 1980s—on the theory that my enemy’s enemy is my friend—the fundamentalist Catholic CIA director William Casey came to believe that Islamic fundamentalists could prove tight and trustworthy allies in rolling back the Soviet Union.

In Afghanistan, as a result, the CIA, backed by the Saudi royals, who themselves represented an extremist form of Sunni Islam, regularly favored and funded the most extreme of the mujahideen ready to fight the Soviets. Who can forget the results? Today, according to Hersh, the Saudis are reassuring key figures in the Bush administration that this time they have the jihadis to whom funds are flowing under control. No problem. If you believe that, you’ll believe anything.

Congress in the dark: Hersh claims that, with the help of Saudi National Security Adviser Prince Bandar bin Sultan (buddy to the Bushes and Cheney’s close comrade-in-arms), the people running the black-ops programs out of Cheney’s office have managed to run circles around any possibility of congressional oversight, leaving the institution completely “in the dark”, which is undoubtedly exactly where Congress wanted to be for the past six years. Is this still true? The non-reaction to the Hersh piece isn’t exactly encouraging.

To summarize, if Hersh is to be believed—and as a major journalistic figure for the past near-40 years he certainly deserves to be taken seriously—the Bush administration seems to be repeating the worst mistakes of the Reagan administration and of the anti-Soviet war in Afghanistan, which led inexorably to the greatest acts of blowback in U.S. history.

Given what we already know about the Bush administration, Americans should be up nights worrying about what all this means now as well as down the line. For Congress, the media and Americans in general, this report should have been not just a wake-up call, but a shout for an allnighter with NoDoz.

In my childhood, one of the Philadelphia papers regularly ran cartoon ads for itself in which some poor soul in a perilous situation—say, clinging to the ledge of a tall building—would be screaming for help, while passers-by were so engrossed in the paper that they didn’t even look up. Now, we have the opposite situation: a journalist in essence writing bloody murder in a giant media and governmental crowd. In this case, no one in the mainstream evidently cares—not yet, anyway—to pay the slightest attention.

It seems that there’s a crime going on and no one gives a damn.

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 Members (at the request of Ms. CLARKE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCHIFF, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. McDERMOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. SHIMKUS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BILIRAKIS, for 5 minutes, March 22.

Mr. BOOZMAN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SHIMKUS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes, March 19, 20, 21, and 22.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Lorraine C. Miller, Clerk of the House reports that on March 14, 2007, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bills.

H.R. 342. To designate the United States courthouse located at 555 Independence Street in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, as the “Rush Hudson Limbaugh, Sr. United States Courthouse”.

H.R. 544. To designate the United States courthouse at South Federal Place in Santa Fe, New Mexico, as the “Santiago E. Campos United States Courthouse”.

H.R. 584. To designate the Federal building located at 400 Maryland Avenue Southwest in the District of Columbia as the “Lyndon Baines Johnson Department of Education Building”.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o’clock and 20 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, March 16, 2007, at noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

866. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — West Virginia Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Plan (RIN: WV-111-FOR) received February 27, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

867. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Bird Conservation, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Migratory Bird Permits; Take of Migratory Birds by the Armed Forces (RIN: 1018-AI92) received March 5, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

868. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Endangered and Threatened

Wildlife and Plants; Withdrawal of Proposed Rule to List *Lepidium papilliferum* (Slickspot Peppergrass) (RIN: 1018-AU99) received February 27, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

869. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary — Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Preparation of Rolls of Indians (RIN: 1076-AE44) received February 27, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

870. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Interim Rule [Docket No. 061213334-6334-01; I.D. 120806B] (RIN: 0648-AV05) received February 28, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

871. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Inseason Adjustment to the 2007 A and B Season Allowances of Pollock in Statistical Area 620 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No. 060216044-6044-01; I.D. 010807A] received February 28, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

872. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fisheries; 2007 Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Specifications [Docket No. 061020273-6321-02; I.D. 101606A] (RIN: 0648-AT60) received February 27, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

873. A letter from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Annual Specifications [Docket No. 061003253-7008-02; I.D. 092606A] (RIN: 0638-AU27) received February 28, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

874. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Fisheries [I.D. 112006C] received February 28, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

875. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota Transfers [Docket No. 051104293-5344-02; I.D. 122806A] received February 28, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

876. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico; Closure of the 2006

Red Snapper Commercial Fishery [Docket No. 990506119-9235-02; I.D. 121106C] received February 28, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

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. FRANK: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 835. A bill to reauthorize the programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing assistance for Native Hawaiians (Rept. 110-50). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. LANGEVIN):

H.R. 1530. A bill to provide that no Federal funds may be used by the Secretary of Homeland Security to approve a site security plan for a chemical facility, unless the facility meets or exceeds security standards and requirements established for such a facility by the State or local government for the area where the facility is located, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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. UPTON (for himself and Mr. RUSH) (both by request):

H.R. 1531. A bill to prohibit deceptive acts and practices in the content rating and labeling of video games; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico, and Ms. BALDWIN):

H.R. 1532. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1533. A bill to provide for the establishment of a national mercury monitoring program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1534. A bill to prohibit the sale, distribution, or transfer of mercury, to prohibit the export of mercury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DINGELL (for himself, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BOUCHER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. GORDON, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WEINER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WYNN, Mr. MELANCON, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCNULTY, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. ROSS):

H.R. 1535. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to ensure that every child in the United States has access to affordable, quality health insurance coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BACA, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BERRY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. CARSON, Ms. CASTOR, Mr. CHANDLER, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUPELLAR, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFazio, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELAHUNT, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FARR, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. GORDON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HARE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. HERSETH, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HINCHAY, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. KANJORSKI, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Ms. NORTON, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. OLVER, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. ROSS, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIREN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STARK, Mr. STUPAK, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WATSON, Mr. WATT, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WEINER, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. WEXLER, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WU, Mr. WYNN, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. LOEBSACK):

H.R. 1536. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to assist low-income individuals in obtaining subsidized prescription drug coverage under the Medicare prescription drug program by expediting the application and qualification process and by revising the resource standards used to determine eligibility for such subsidies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in ad-

dition 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. KANJORSKI (for himself, Mr. ROYCE, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. PAUL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. ORTIZ, and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 1537. A bill to modernize credit union net worth standards, advance credit union efforts to promote economic growth, and modify credit union regulatory standards and reduce burdens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SKELTON (for himself, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. MCHUGH, and Mr. FILNER):

H.R. 1538. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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. HOEKSTRA (for himself, Mr.

AKIN, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. CANNON, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. ISSA, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. LINDER, Mr. MCHENRY, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. RENZI, Mr. ROHR-ABACHER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. TANGREDO, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Ms. FOX, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. GILCHRIST, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PITTS, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. SALI, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. WESTMORELAND):

H.R. 1539. A bill to allow a State to submit a declaration of intent to the Secretary of Education to combine certain funds to improve the academic achievement of students; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LEWIS of Georgia (for himself, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. BECERRA, and Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 1540. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BRALEY of Iowa (for himself, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. BOSWELL):

H.R. 1541. A bill to provide support and assistance for families of members of the National Guard and Reserve who are undergoing deployment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, 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.