

leader is fully in compliance with the agreement we made so we can move forward with these appropriations bills with the understanding that while now we will have a significant opportunity to look at the remainder of the specific Member projects or earmarks in the bill, we also would have an opportunity to have a debatable point of order on the conference report if those appear.

I would also like to ask about energy. I know in previous discussions on the floor at the end of previous weeks, I believe we discussed the likelihood that there would be an energy bill on the floor by July 4. I know in either this week's schedule or future scheduling that the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the Ways and Means Committee, and the Energy and Commerce Committee have all delayed some markups that they had intended, and I am wondering if the leader has a sense of what that means in terms of an energy bill on the floor, and also that bill on the floor in light of the appropriations works we just discussed.

Mr. HOYER. If the gentleman would yield, obviously the gentleman is correct. There has been a change in the July schedule in part because of the moving of three of the appropriations bills to July. So they will not be considered in June. It was always the intent, however, that there would be an announcement prior to July 4 of component parts of an energy policy, not necessarily one bill but an energy policy prior to July 4. We always contemplated energy bills being on the floor in July. As far as I know, that is still the plan.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank you for that response.

In addition to that, every indication I have up to this point is that those energy bills would go through the regular order of the committee. Is that what the leader and the majority still anticipates?

Mr. HOYER. That is correct.

Mr. BLUNT. On another topic where we had some discussions that indicated there would be an effort to have a vote before the August work period on the topic of trade. And of the agreements out there, generally the discussion was that there would be a significant effort made to have the Peru agreement on the floor in July. I know these take a significant amount of time because of the various things that have to be done in this trade promotion authority process. I am wondering on trade if my friend has a sense where those items might be.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and not with precision in the sense of weeks or months or days, I mean. Obviously as the gentleman knows, Chairman RANGEL and Chairman LEVIN of the subcommittee is working very closely with Ambassador Schwab and Secretary Paulson and the administration on these issues.

They have reached an understanding and that is moving forward, I believe, but I could not tell the gentleman at

this time what will be scheduled or when it will be scheduled. As the gentleman well knows, there is discussion with reference to Peru and Panama and actions that may be taken in Peru or Panama, and that is being discussed, as a matter of fact, I think today between Ambassador Schwab and Mr. RANGEL and others.

Clearly I think things are moving forward on that, but I cannot give the gentleman any time frames.

Mr. BLUNT. I thank my good friend for that. We are interested in that. We will continue to talk about that both on the floor and off. It would certainly be one of my goals. By this time next week if we have any information on that, we can begin to get a sense of meeting those deadlines. Under this process, as the leader well knows, a number of things have to be done. There is very little flexibility in the time frame once you start the clock on a particular agreement, and the clock has to start right here in the House of Representatives. I look forward to that. I thank my friend for the information.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

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

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Monday next for morning-hour debate.

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO HOUSE COMMISSION ON CONGRESSIONAL MAILING STANDARDS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 501(b), and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards:

Mr. CAPUANO, Massachusetts, Chairman

Mr. SHERMAN, California
Mr. DAVIS, Alabama
Mr. EHLERS, Michigan
Mr. PRICE, Georgia
Mr. McCARTHY, California

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 note), and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission:

Mr. JACKSON, Illinois

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER, REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 14, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 note), I am pleased to re-appoint the Honorable Ray LaHood of Illinois to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Mr. LaHood has expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill his request.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY REGARDING BELARUS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110-39)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Belarus are to continue in effect beyond June 16, 2007.

The actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Belarus and other persons pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. These actions

include undermining democratic processes or institutions; committing human rights abuses related to political repression, including detentions and disappearances; and engaging in public corruption, including by diverting or misusing Belarusian public assets or by misusing public authority. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency and related measures blocking the property of certain persons with respect to Belarus.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 14, 2007.

CELEBRATING FATHER'S DAY

(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. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to be able to congratulate and to wish a happy Father's Day to all of the fathers across America. In particular, I wish a very special and very respectful Father's Day to all of those serving on the front lines of Iraq and Afghanistan, all of our veterans, all of them loved dearly for their service, and as well the service and love they give their families.

I want to pay special tribute to those fathers who are no longer with us, and might I mention Ezra C. Jackson, my father, my dad, who will always be someone in my heart as someone willing to stand by his children and be able to uplift his children.

Again this is a commemorative holiday where we simply say "thank you." Fathers are the guiding force, fathers bring strength, both in religion, both in character, and in support of their families. We are a nation of families, moms and dads and grandmothers and grandfathers. And for all of those who have stood in as fathers, we wish you a very happy Father's Day as well.

This is a special day, and as I close, let me simply say, we have a weekend of Father's Day. And in Texas, we commemorate Juneteenth. It is a special weekend of celebrations, remembering the struggle of those who were not yet freed as slaves, and remembering the service and the love that our fathers give in America.

We are united as families, and fathers remain very dear in our hearts. Happy Father's Day.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, 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 Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

LISTENING TO THE TROOPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today marks over 1,500 days of the occupation of Iraq. Since that time, over 3,500 brave men and women have given their lives and at least 2,600 have been injured. We have spent nearly half a trillion dollars, but this occupation is about more than just numbers. It is about the lives, both American and Iraqi, that will be changed forever.

So many brave men and women heeded the call of the Commander in Chief to rid Iraq of Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction. One could say many of these troops were misled with false or at the very least faulty intelligence. They deserve so much more for their sacrifice and their service.

Last month, Santa Rosa Press Democrat, a newspaper in my district, carried a story titled, "GIs Voice Disillusionment With the War." It outlined the frustrations of our troops, some on their first tour, others who have served again and again.

One account exemplifies the frustration, and I will read it. "In 2003, 2004, 100 percent of the soldiers wanted to be here to fight this war," said Sergeant First Class David Moore, a self-described "conservative Texas Republican" and platoon sergeant who strongly advises an American withdrawal.

"Now," he says, "95 percent of my platoon agrees with me."

Mr. Speaker, that is directly from the front. This is not something that has been run through the administration's spin machine. This is the unvarnished truth from the troops in the trenches.

One more account comes from Staff Sergeant David Safstrom. According to the Santa Rosa Press Democrat, Staff Sergeant Safstrom does not regret his previous tours in Iraq, not even a difficult second stint when two comrades were killed while trying to capture insurgents. He said, "In Mosul, in 2003, it felt like we were making the city a better place. There was no sectarian violence. Saddam was gone. We were tracking down the bad guys. It felt awesome."

But now, Mr. Speaker, on this third deployment in Iraq, he is no longer a believer in the mission. The pivotal moment came, he says, this February when soldiers killed a man setting a roadside bomb. When they searched the bomber's body, they found identification showing him to be a sergeant in the Iraqi Army.

"I thought," he said, "'What are we doing here? Why are we still here?'", said Safstrom, a member of Delta Com-

pany of the 1st battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division. He had changed his mind.

Mr. Speaker, let me be clear, I and every one of my colleagues support the troops. We honor their bravery and we commit to ensuring that they receive all of the promised benefits as a result of their service to our Nation.

I believe that the best way we can stand up for our troops is to bring them home. It is past time for a fully funded and safe redeployment. We will not back out of our commitment to the Iraqi people. We will work with them to increase their security forces and to help in reconstruction.

But we must face the facts. The situation on the ground may be worse than it ever has been before. Military leaders are conceding that the so-called surge is not working, and it may never.

The administration has even said that we needed to look at the situation in Iraq like that of Korea, and we have been there half a century. That is simply not an option.

Let's do the right thing. Let's do the sensible thing. Let's bring our troops home. We owe it to them and we owe it to our Nation.

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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.)

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

(Mr. SOUDER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. FRANKS of Arizona addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

(Mr. GINGREY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)